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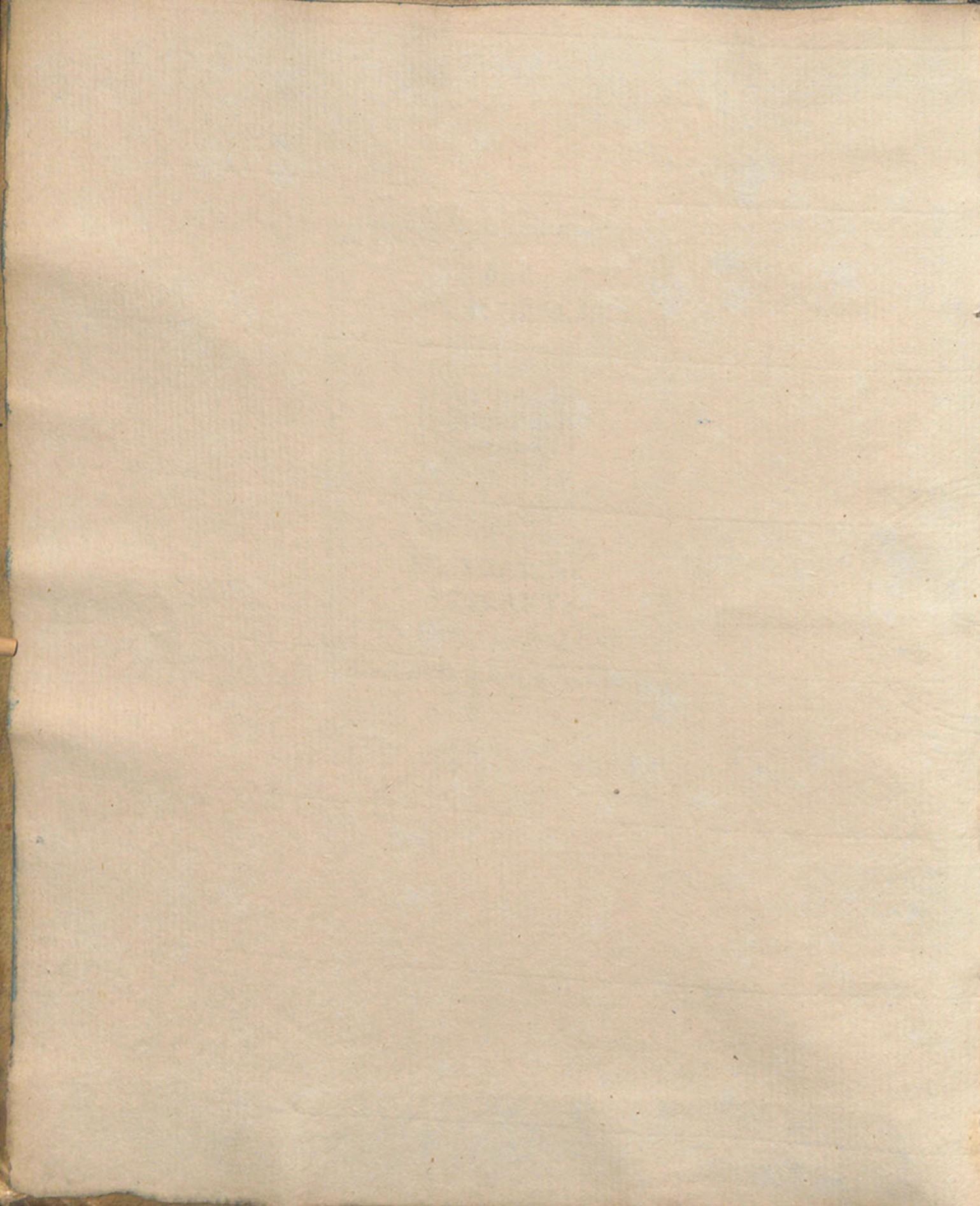
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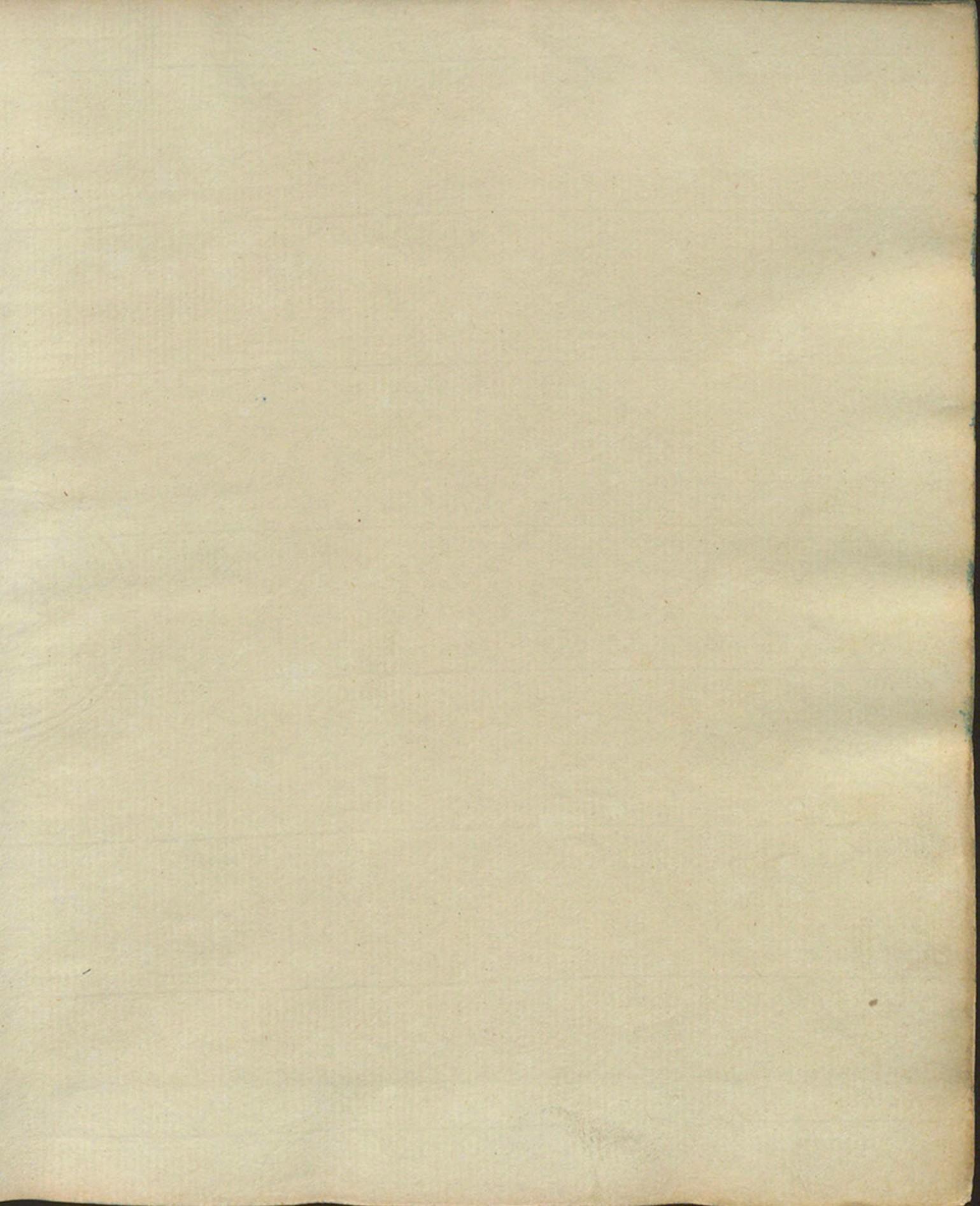
Chronic Diseases of Weakness
Hysteric Diseases

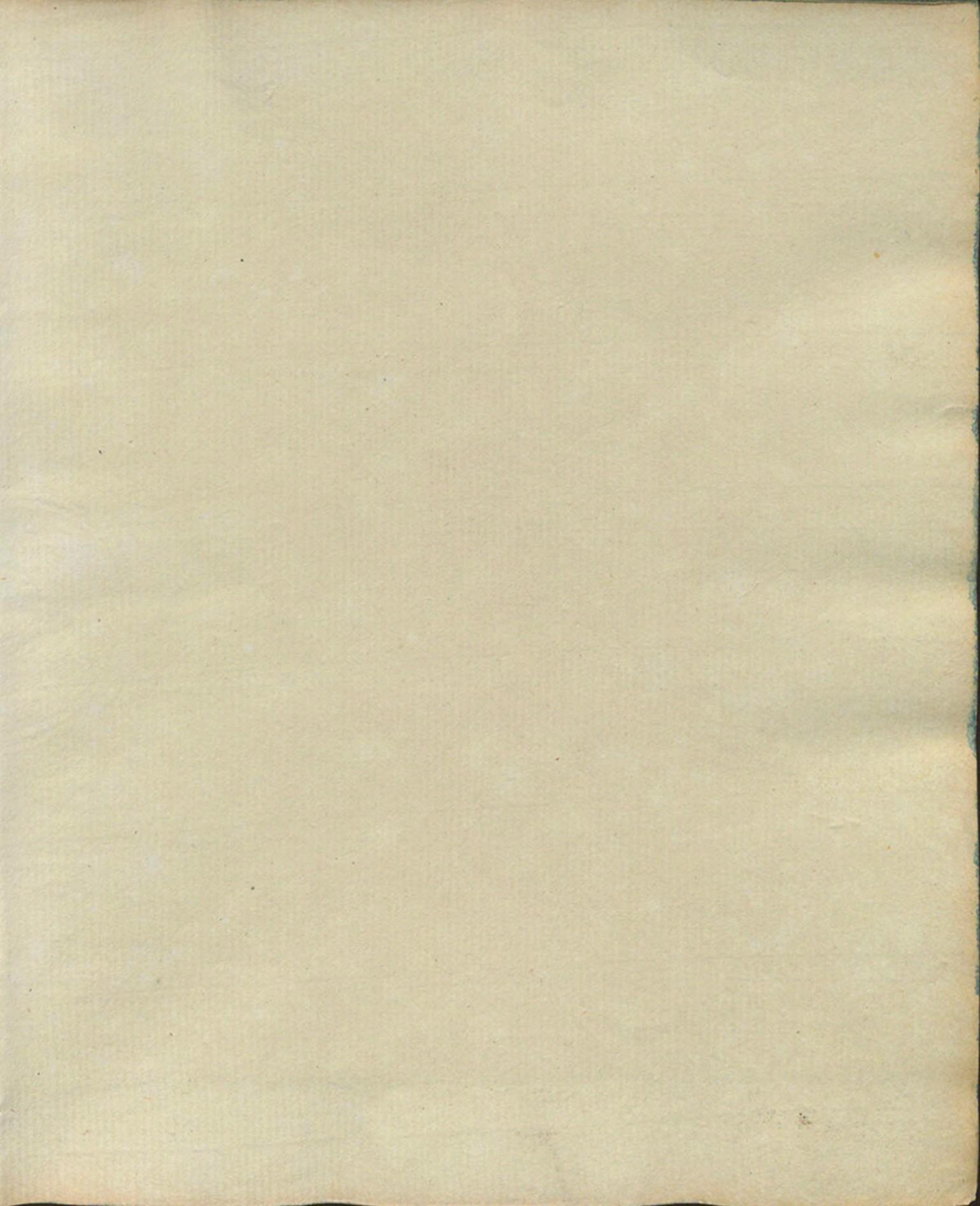
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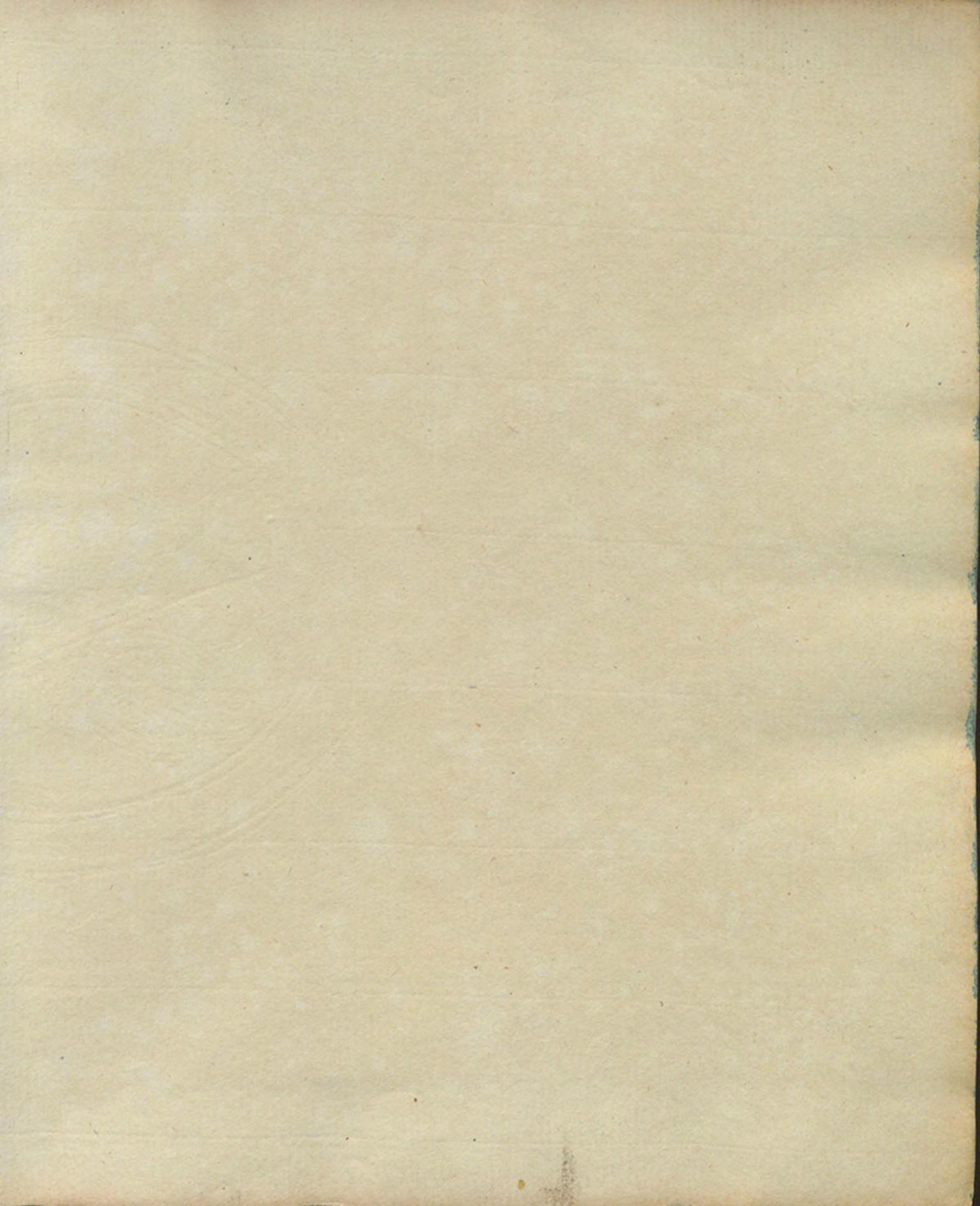
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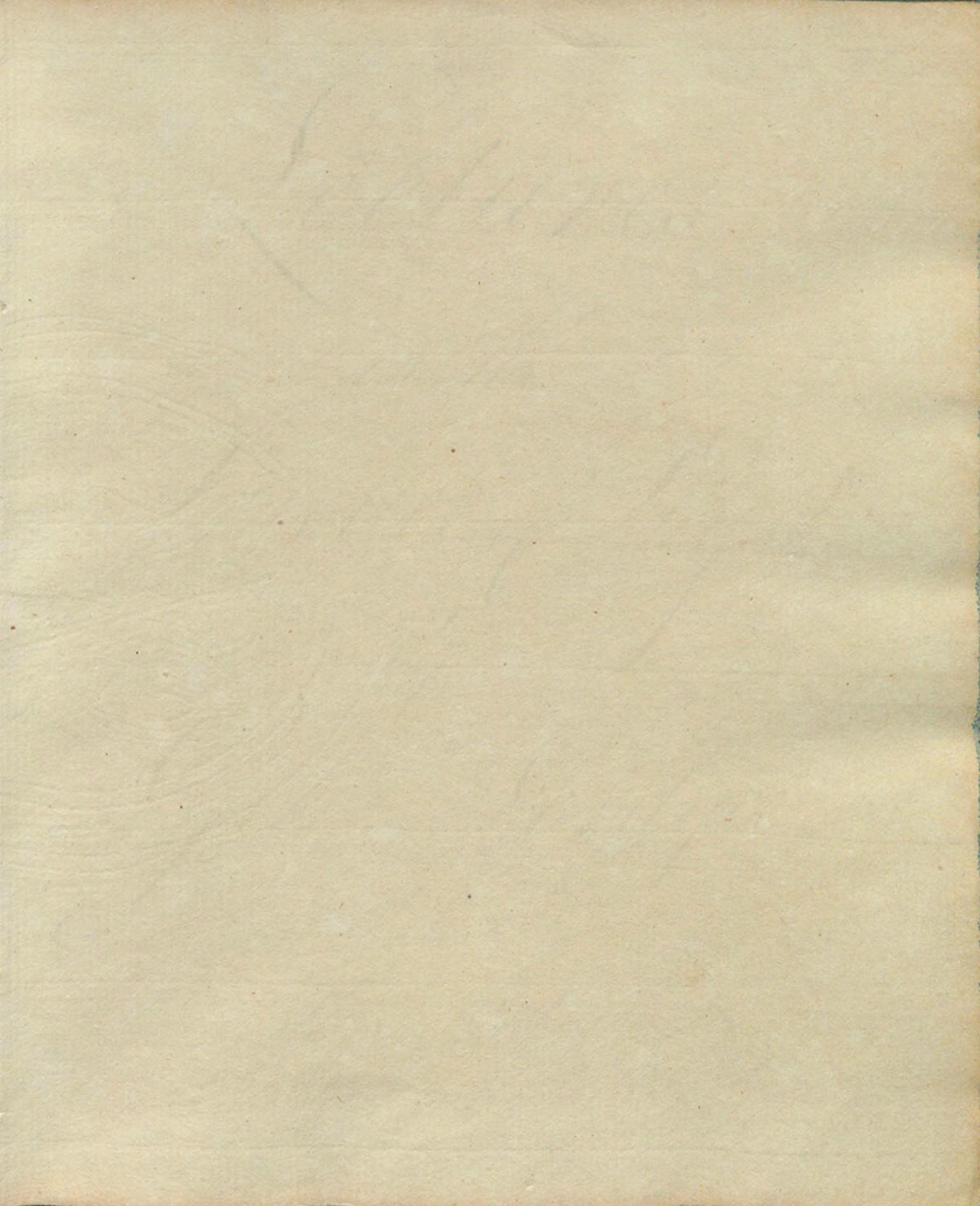
George Fortyce (1786 - 1802)

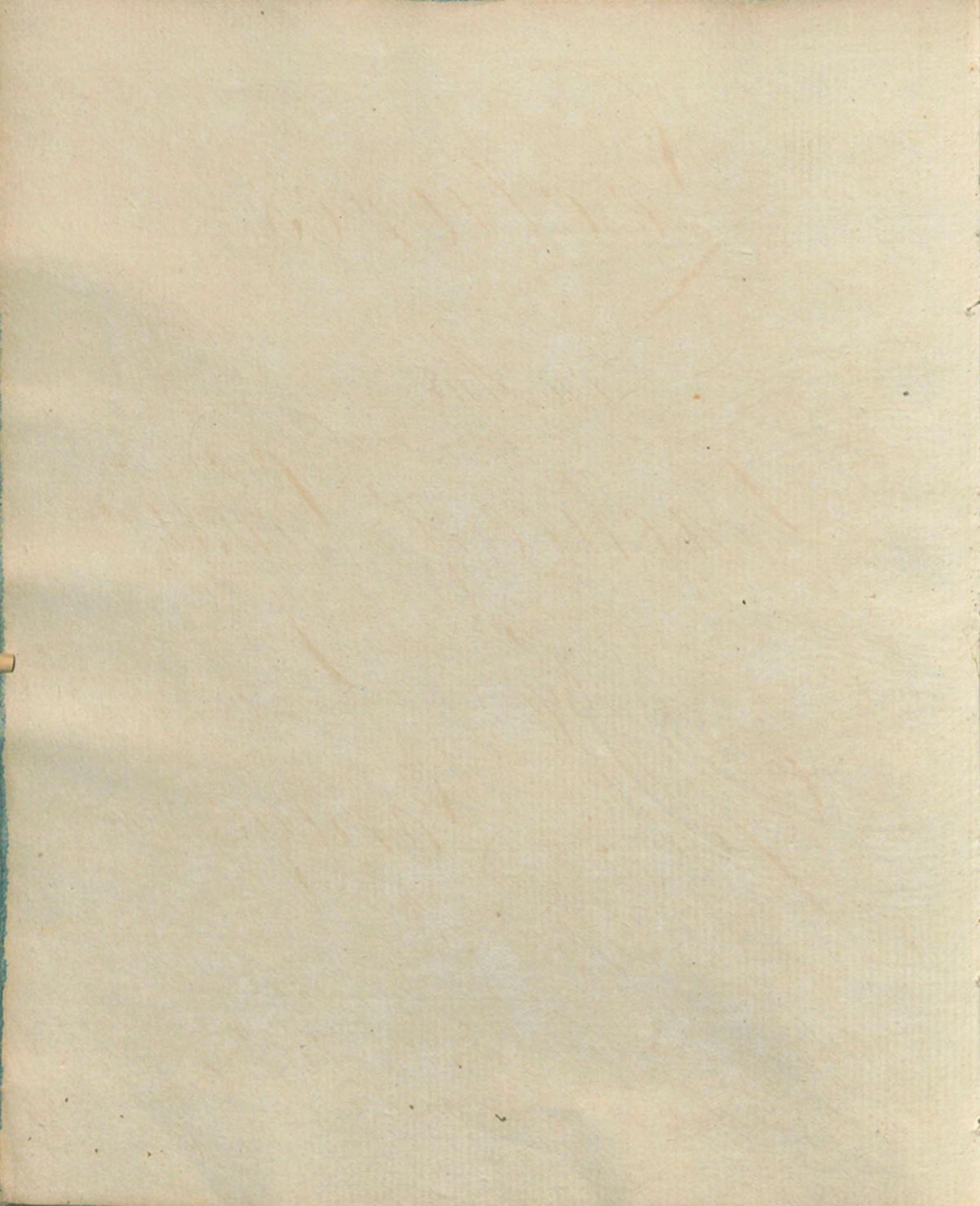












Lectures
on the
Practice of Physic
by
Geo. Fordyce, M.D.
Vol. 3rd

Malimenta Janis Corporibus Agricultura
Si sanitatem agnis medicina promitteret.
Celsus



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1821
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Chronic Diseases.

Of Weakness

We have gone thro' the Diseases commonly considered as Acute, & come now to those which are generally considered as Chronic Diseases —

The distinction between Acute & Chronic Diseases, is by no means a natural one, Chronic Diseases were supposed to be such as lasted above 40 Days — And such as were terminated in less time, were called Acute — Now we know there are cases of Diseases, in which the continuance is much less than 40 Days, others on the contrary run out to a much greater length continued. Never, for instance, will it frequently afford beyond this period, one & the same disease, if we ought to make this distinction, must be both an Acute, and Chronic, one.

Besides this the distinction has not been kept up. Fevers, Inflammations, Rheumatisms, have all natural cures, which generally take place in a greater, or less degree, of those actions of the system attending

to carry off the original disease), become very frequently by the most dangerous part of it, hence arises a complication & variety in the disease, which do not occur in others in which no such natural cure take place, or when such cures do arise they are more simple or do not endanger the life of the patient as in the present case.

Chronic Diseases, then, are much more simple than easily understood, are attended with more slight symptoms & the treatment is more easily adapted than in acute diseases - at the same time they are very difficult to cure, the whole depends upon the exhibition of medicines, which, however frequently fail us.

Chronic Diseases, then, are more simple than acute ones. We have in them only one point to aim at, they are easily understood, & the remedies are easily applied: but very frequently we have not Remedies, sufficiently powerful to carry them off.

Weakness itself when it has arisen slowly is to be considered as a disease of this kind, but it also often generally attends Chronic Diseases.

Before then, we enter into the particular Chronic Diseases, we mean to point out the Manner in which the System is weakened. The cause producing such weakness, its symptoms & manner of Treatment.

When the whole or any part of the Body is rendered weak that weakness is very often attended with a diminution of the Sensibility, Mobility, & Irritability of such part, not only the power of Motion is diminished, but

Weakness

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also the facility, & disposition to be affected by external Applications, this kind of Weakness we call Palse, but of this we do not mean to speak at present, we only now purpose to treat of that weakness in which, altho' the power of motion, is diminished, yet the Sensibility & Irritability are increased, this is what we call in general Weakness.

When the Body is strong the Actions go on firmly & are performed regularly, they are not easily disturbed, the Functions of every part go on properly.

When the Habit is weakened the Functions of the several parts are not carried on with so much firmness, they are then more easily disturbed, & alterations are more readily produced in them, there is then a greater facility of Motion, or Irritability, at the same time that the power of Motion is diminished.

This Species of Weakness, may also be divided into two kinds when it arises suddenly it is not habitual, when it arises slowly, it is more habitual, & with much greater difficulty carried off, & when it arises slowly it often affects those parts of the System in particular, whose Functions are necessary to the other parts of the Body.

But that Weakness which arises slowly, is also capable of arising suddenly from the same cause.

Now the first Species of Weakness is of very little bad effect but that which comes on slowly is more obstinate, produces many bad symptoms in the System, & is with very great

Weakness

difficulty carried off.

The causes which produce Weakness quickly, & in such manner as is easily carried off are, in the first place, great sudden evacuations, a large and sudden hemorrhage, whether accidentally produced, or performed for the cure of some disease. Sometimes tho' when such evacuation is carried to a great ex-

treme, the Body is thereby so much weakened, that the strength is with difficulty restored, this however is seldom the case.

Now these sudden evacuations, either from the bowels or the glands, generally produce a Weakness easily got the better of.

A second cause producing this Weakness, is some violent disease, which for want of proper, or sufficient Nutrition, or from the violent exertions of the arteries, produces it in as we see perhaps in a violent Inflammatory Fever, in which also the Action of the arteries is considerable, yet the muscular power is greatly diminished.

After the Disease is cured the Weakness is almost always of that kind, which is easily removed.

Another method in which the system may be also weakened is from great Actions of the Muscles, the Strength being exhausted by too much Labour, if we may so speak; & the Strength is again easily restored.

This is not that Weakness we mean to treat of, but of that which from a repetition of such Exercise, without sufficient Nutrition, constitutes Weakness of the system in general, and this Weakness is almost always easily removed.

The symptoms attending this Weakness, provided no Disease accompanies it, are commonly these. The Pulse is commonly softer, & slower than Natural, it beats perhaps about 50. Nerves

Weakness

in a minute, but upon using any Exercise or stimulating Food the frequency of the Pulse will be increased, even to a thousand sometimes; & upon desisting from such stimuli, the Pulse will return to its natural state.

The Evening paroxysm of Fever is pretty evident, & before sometimes takes place, a greater degree of Heat follows, & in the Morning the patient falls, into a sweat which carries it off. The Evening paroxysm of Fever is then frequently more apparent. The Muscular Strength is greatly diminished from its natural state, the patient is incapable of exerting any great force in. This weakness is sometimes such, as to render him incapable of getting in Bed, or even sometimes of getting up without fainting in. This may arise from two causes, first a less quantity of Blood, being thrown on the Brain, consequently a greater column of Blood, perpendicular, impeding upon & resisting the contractions of the Heart, but a second cause (which Dr. Faradie, thinks apprehensible,) is the exertions which the muscles must make to support his Body in such an attitude & this exertion is at present more than the patient can bear.

The Organs of Digestion, altho weak & incapable of digesting Food not easily digested, yet they are generally in good order. If Food is given of easy digestion a considerable quantity of Blood is hence required & thrown into the Blood Vessels.

Itself that the Sleep is sometimes a little disturbed by the Evening paroxysm of Fever, the patient generally sleeps sound & for a considerable time, the sleep is found quiet, & is much refreshed by his repose.

When such weakness as this takes place, it hardly requires anything more than the patient should use good Food, & of

Weakness

easy Digestion to restore Strength to the System; & by rest in a proper degree at the same time, nor should he use any more Exercise than he can bear, without being exhausted, By these means in general the Strength may be restored, altho indeed, if you employ such Medicines, as we shall have occasion to mention, by & by, the Strength may be reestablished, more certainly than before Time, in

This Weakness when you see is of very little Consequence, it does no Mischief, the Patient is easily & soon restored to his former Strength.

But we come now to shew you the causes producing weakness which is more obstinate & more difficultly cured.

Now what produces weakness very slowly, produces weakness which becomes more habitual, & of Time now to be described.

Any Evacuation that has been continued for a considerable length of Time, such as for Example, the Menstruation in Women continuing for a long time, running perhaps for 6 or 8 days each time larger in quantity, & returning at shorter periods of Intervals. Such or any other Menses, & discharge continuing for a considerable Time, Evacuations from the Glands, the continued use of Purgatives, or Evacuations from the Mucous Glands of any other parts, as from laxity of the Glands of the Lungs, as in Pneumonia, Flux Albus, & Diarrhoea. Diseases in all these Evacuations commonly produce that species of weakness which is more obstinate & difficult to remove.

In like manner any long-continued Disease, a Fever running on to 5 or 6 Weeks, or any other Disease continued for some time will produce this.

Weakness — Montague Fever, as it generally terminates soon, leaves that Weakness which is suddenly produced, & easily removed; an Autumnal or the Linthare, or an Intermittent as it runs out so a much greater length leaves that weakness which is produced slowly, & difficultly removed. Now these two causes produce this species of Weakness, merely by the slowness which they exert it on the other causes not only produce it slowly, but if it should come on more suddenly it is generally of that kind, which is with difficulty removed — First then.

The Action of Stimulants

When the Muscular Action is increased, the Weakness produced is generally easily removed, But such increased Action produced in the Blood Vessels, is followed by that weakness ^{which} is obstinate & difficult of Cure; & this seems to arise from this cause, the first, or primary Action of the Living Power, is to contract the Blood Vessels, & adapt their Capacities to the quantity of Fluids contained in them.

They require hence a greater Disposition to act than the other parts of the System, & as long as there is a sufficient quantity of Living Power in the System, it must be exerted in the Blood Vessels when there is not a suffl. quantity in the System to produce the necessary Conactions in the Blood Vessels. The Animal dies — these therefore must act, & only the superficial parts of the Living Power, can be exerted in the Muscles —

For this Reason it was necessary that the Living power should be limited to the Blood Vessels, & that the Primary Action of the Vessels should be to adapt themselves to the Quantity of Fluids contained, Since the Muscular Motions can seldom be so great as to exhaust the whole of strength, But the action of the Vessels may be so increased, as to produce considerable weakness, as the Living power is drawn from the other parts till them are tired we see in Inflammations, or violent increased action of the Arteries, where the Muscular power is greatly diminished, while at the same time the passive action of the Arteries continues on.

And another disadvantage of this increased Action of the Arteries is, that they frequently continue, while the System in general becomes weaker. If you cannot diminish the strong action of the Vessels, more than you can increase the power of action in the other parts.

Hence such increased action of the Arteries produces a weakness very difficultly carried off, upon a long continued course of Mercury of Whatile, or fixed Alcali, & such stimulants, produce that weakness which is obstinate & difficultly removed.

The Whatile, & fixed Alcali, produce just the same effect in this case, the former being decomposed in the Stomach.

Another cause producing weakness, obstinate & difficult of cure, is Anxiety of Mind, or great Attention, The Mind & Body are so connected, that it is the same power that acts in both, It is the same Living power, that produces a contraction of a Muscle & that forms an accurate conclusion from premises well considered in the Mind, But the Living Power may be made both stronger or weaker.

in those parts. If it be habituated to act more strongly in the Body or in the Mind, that part, where it has been habituated to act, will become the stronger.

Hence people, brought up to labour, their Mental powers were originally the same, are less capable of Attention & Perception than such who accustom themselves more to play, so that the lower class of people who live by the Labour of their Hands, not having been accustomed to attention of the Mind, have less discernment & fewer Ideas than phlegmous persons.

In like manner those who have been accustomed to exercises of the Mind, not attending to the Body, have their Bodies sometimes so debilitated as that the weakness is very difficultly removed, while at the same time the powers of their Mind are increased.

Hence it has happened that the studious people are frequently afflicted with considerable weakness of the species.

But there are involuntary exertions of the Mind, which weaken much more suddenly as Fear, Grief, Anxiety & such weakness thence arises, as takes place slowly, is very obstinate & difficultly got the better of.

Another cause producing weakness of this kind, is too great fullness of the Vessels: When there is a greater quantity of Blood, contained in the Vessels, than is capable of filling them to their present disposition to contract, or to their present tone, they have not room to play, they cannot relax much more, nor can they be distended to a greater degree from their present disposition to contract. Now are they affected much more, on account of the quantity of Fluids contained in the Pulse then becomes oppressed, you can hardly perceive any difference between the distension & the con-

Much shake of the Liveries, & all the Functions of the Body are performed with difficulty, at the same time that every part is stimulated, the Strength is by this means greatly exhausted, the universal Stimulus arising in every part of the Body weakens considerably, so that after Plethora has continued for some time, Weakness is produced, & is obstinate & with difficulty carries off.

We proceed now to point out the other causes, that produce that kind of Weakness, which is not easily removed.

In my cause is weakness of the Prima Via, there is a great want between the Stomach, the Intestines, & other parts of the Brain, Great Disease in almost any part of the Body, produces disorder in the Intestinal Canal, Now Sickness & loss of power of Digestion are the Consequences of almost every violent disease affecting the System, many particular parts of it, on the other hand weakness of the Prima Via has an universal effect on the whole System. The Prima Via, are apt to be particularly affected with weakness, in consequence of too much exertion. - Eating Food of no difficult Digestion supposing we even favor the Digestion of it, by employing Stimulants, weakens the Stomach & Intestinal Canal considerably, but eating Food of difficult Digestion, without employing Stimulants, may make it be digested, on Food that is not digested, weakens the System in a still greater degree, Alths Spices & other Condiments hurt the Stomach, yet they do much less Injury than undigested Food.

Employing such Food then as requires these Condiments weakens considerably, If then such Food be digested, Weakness of the parts arises slowly, but if it should not be digested then the weakness which takes place more quickly is produced

Drinking great quantities of Wine, or Spirits, or the use of Spirits & Water, produce considerable weakness, Spirits tho' less than Wine, Moderate quantities of Wine are useful, & may be employed with advantage to the System.

Applications of Sedatives. The continued use of Fluids often weaken very considerably, preparations of Lead, Selenum, or mercury fail to produce considerable weakness in the Stomach & Intestines, & the effects of this, are very often Paroxysms in the other parts of the System.

Again Evacuation's from the Stomach, & a frequent repetition of vomits, or a long continued use of purgatives weaken the System considerably.

Living in a warm Climate, occasioning an increase of the external circulation & a diminution of it in the interior parts in the Stomach, & Intestinal Canal, weakens these very considerably.

It often happens that as weakness of the Stomach is cause of weakness in the System in general, so affections of the System as of the Stomach, often produce weakness of the Intestinal Canal.

The next cause of weakness, is a want of sufficient exertion of the powers of the Body. In speaking of the Natural History of the Body, we shewed you that the original power of Man was not indefinite, that in a given time there could only be a certain degree of exertion. There is then a constant flow of new power into the System. & there may be a greater exertion in two hours than can be performed in one.

This flow of power is not always the same, it is greater at one time than at another, so that a Man may be able to exert more force in one hour sometimes, than is accumulated

at others in twice that Period, & like all the other Powers it is capable of being affected by Habit, A Man by exerting the Powers of His Body & Mind may render these Powers extensive, but by neglecting them they become weak and inveterated — A want then of sufficient Portions of these Powers, weakens them considerably, & the Weakness thence produced is habitual & with great difficulty carried off

Persons who live peasant lives become debilitated, & sometimes this want of Perkin terminates in Lethargy — That is a diminution of the sensibility & irritability in the System in general, this affection is different from Palsy, inasmuch as the latter is a diminution of the Sensibility, Mobility, & Irritability, in a particular part, whereas Lethargy is attended with a universal diminution of the Sensibility & irritability throughout the whole System.

This increase or diminution of the Powers of the Body & Mind make the principal differences between Mankind, Two nations of the same Species of Men, are perhaps originally endued with the same Powers both of Body & Mind, but if you compare an Indian living on the banks of the Amazons, with a well cultivated European, you will find a greater difference between them, than between any two animals whatever of the same Species —

Many of the Brute creation approach nearer in these Powers, than such Indian, A want of Cultivation of the Powers of Body & Mind, has debased & debilitated such Human beings, & on the other hand, the Cultivation the other has received, has raised him up to a greater degree

of Persécution & would make him seem of a Superior Rank in the Creation.

A Suitable Degree of Delirium then, as far as is consistent with the greatest Degree of Health, should be employed. It is not our Intention to enter into the Disquisition how far or in what manner the Functions of the Mind are to be excited, we mean to confine ourselves to those of the Body only.

Menstrual Flux

There is a Cause of Weakness in Women, which does not exist in Men, to wit, Irregularities of the Menstrual Flux.

In the Females of all Quadrupeds in which Flux in Natural History, as we have already observed, Man, is to be reckoned, this Discharge takes place, the Females of all Quadrupeds have at certain Periods a Degree of Inflammation & Evacuation of Blood from the womb,

The Evacuation of Blood is much less, & the Inflammation appears much greater in most Quadrupeds than in the Human Species. There are indeed some Monkeys of the same Genus with Man, in which the Evacuation of Blood is much greater or more considerable, & approaches nearer to what happens in the Human Species.

Now the Females of all other Quadrupeds, will not admit the Male at any other Time, but when this Inflammation & Evacuation are present, these Periods are not fixed & determined, but occur irregularly,

& by the exhibition of a considerable quantity of Fire
& keeping the animal in a warm atmosphere they may
be made to return more frequently, & on the other hand
keeping the animal on a low diet, & in a cold atmosphere
they make their appearance less frequently
In Monkeys whose evacuation is more considerable, the
disease is also irregular: but they generally return less
frequently in Impregnation than in other circumstances

In Women the quantity is not only considerable but
the returns are made at certain periods, the Menstru-
-tione makes its first appearance at the age we call -
of Puberty, In Children however Haemorrhages may hap-
pen from the womb, as well as from other parts of the system
It is not uncommon to find Haemorrhages from this part
as well as from the Nostrils in such subjects, These discharges
do have no affinity with Menstruation, but are similar to
Haemorrhages from other parts of the Body
The appearance of this discharge, or the age of Puberty is
different in different Persons & Countries, in this Country
it is generally between 14 & 15 Years of age, & in warm Countries
it may be two years sooner, There are Instances of their
appearing at ten Years & sometimes not sooner than 18
or 20 Years, but the general time in this Country is between
14 & 15 or thereabouts.

At this time the general growth of the Body stops for
some time, now often, tho' women will arrive at their
full size at this age, but more frequently they stop growing
for some time, after this period the parts of Generation
become perfect, the Breasts are enlarged & the parts
acquire a disposition for Impregnation.

at this Time too Inflammatory Symptoms appear about the lower part of the Belly in the Region of the womb, Heat, pain, a sense of weight & fullness & sometimes a suppuration takes place, instead of Haemorrhage in consequence of the Inflammation, But this is seldom the Case, the Haemorrhage taking place, carries off the Inflamm-

It should have observed that these Symptoms are attended with a sense of weight, fullness, Swelling of the Breasts Abstergic Symptoms, & Symptoms of general Inflammation sometimes take place.

It goes off & returns at the end of one Month of two, three, or four Months irregularly at the first appearance, but it afterwards becomes more regular, & returns at the end of 28 days generally.

The Returns have no Respect to the Phases of the Heavenly Bodies, they do not at all depend upon them, as they return at all times of these Bodies & indifferently at any time of their Periods, or Alterations.

In some they return at the end of three Weeks, in others at the end of five Weeks. In the former Cases the Person affected is generally of a Plethoraic Habit, & in the latter he is generally weak & relaxed.

If no Impregnation should take place, this Haemorrhage again becomes irregular & goes off or ceases at 40. or 50. Years.

There are Instances of this discharge appearing at the age of 80, This arises, or takes place in consequence of a disposition, which the System is endued with, & which it sometimes exerts & renew itself. There are also Instances where, at this, or at an advanced age, from this effect of the Constitution, the Sensibility & Irritability before considerably diminished, have been again restored.

The Mental Faculties become stronger, the Organs of Sense, recover their powers, the Sight & Hearing etc. become better, new alveolar processes formed, & new Teeth produced

Most commonly in advanced Age, two, or three Teeth do grow, but it has sometimes happened that Persons, all these Periods have had a whole set removed

This Renovation of Senility is perhaps the Case with those who, we find, or hear, live to a great age

Hæmorrhages may also arise from the womb in advanced Age, but these Discharges are attended with none of the Circumstances of Menstruation, they are similar to those which sometimes happens from the Womb in Children

After Impregnation the Hæmorrhage ceases, there are no Instances related of its going on for two, or three Months & sometimes even thro' the whole Period of Gestation, But these Hæmorrhages must proceed from the vagina & not the womb, as the Membranes of the Fetus universally, adhere to the inner surface of the Uterus, & would consequently prevent such Evacuation from taking place

After Child birth an Hæmorrhage takes place from the Uterus, called the Lochia, but it is different from Menstruation, this Hæmorrhage tho' continues until the Menses again return in their Natural Order

Yesterday we shew'd you the History of Menstruation, many Methods of accounting for this Appearance in the Body have been adopted

It is evident the Hæmorrhage takes place at first & arises afterwards in consequence of strong Motion of the Arteries of the womb, the sense of Fullness - the Brain,

which often arise about the Belly, & region of the womb, & the Inflammation which now & then happens evidently shews that the Haemorrhage takes place in consequence of strong action of the Arteries. But why in the first place the parts of Generation should grow particularly large at this period & be applied to Impregnation, we cannot say —

This particular growth seems tho originally to give occasion to Haemorrhages taking place, rather in this than in other parts of the System, & the fullness of the Vessels, which generally happens when the growth of the Body stops - hinder both young Men & Women subject to Haemorrhages. This may also, this in producing the Haemorrhage at first this general Plethora, & the particular action of the Vessels of the womb, from their being lately distended, are undoubtedly in part the causes of this Haemorrhage taking place. But it is also occasioned by another cause, one of those laws in the Body, for which we are not able to account. There are many actions, many alterations which take place in the Body in consequence of particular dispositions of the living Power, which do not seem to depend upon exterior cause, for instance the Secretion of Semen in Man the particular growth of the parts of Generation in Women the swelling of the Breasts &c &c

We have said that in other Animals, the Menstruation was not periodical, that it returned irregularly, &c that it might be made to take place more frequently by stimulating the System & by producing Plethora. But in Women, indeed in Mankind in general there is a great disposition in all peculiar alterations in the System to become periodical —

Menstrual Flux

Almost every Disease that comes on by Paroxysms generally becomes periodical, the first two, or three Periods are generally irregular, take place at no stated Time: they often afterwards return at a stated & regular period of Time & continue to return after that at such periods, in consequence of Habit.

It is most probable that it is owing to this general disposition of the Body, that the Menstrua return at particular periods & do not return irregularly as in other Animals, but the reason of their return at the end of 28 Days in most Women is not easily ascertained.

In some Cases indeed, in some few cases they come sooner & in others at later periods, But these Cases are exceedingly few, when compared to the usual period of 28 Days. There must then be something peculiar in the disposition of the Menstrua, in like Manner as Periods have influence on Intermittents, which we find have a greater tendency to return at the end of 48 hours than of any other Period.

Some have endeavoured to account for this Discharge, from Accumulation, they said that the Fluids were accumulated in the Space of 28 Days so as to produce Plethora hence the System, became stimulated. But considering the diff^t powers of Digestion in different women, & the further difference of diff^t Habits, this Theory cannot be admitted, It is easy to see that it is not any accumulation that is required, to produce this Evacuation. We know that they do return at particular periods, but the manner in which these returns are brought about we know no more of than we do of the action of Typhus.

of Fevers, of which we are altogether ignorant on
The Stoppage of the Mensse, at an advanced Age is probably
owing to Contraction of the Vessels, & diminution of the smaller
Arteries, which happens in the latter Periods of Life, accor-
dingly we find this take place at the Age of 40, 50, or later dates

We find some Persons worn out much sooner than others
the Mensse then must cease at diff^t. Periods in diff^t
persons, in consequence of this diminution of the power
of the Arteries.

The particular growth then of the parts of Generation
the particular fullness of them, & the general fullness which
takes place about the age of Puberty, certainly contribute
to this Haemorrhage: & the great disposition in the Hu-
man Body to have alterations produced in it take
place by Paroxysms at regular periods, contributes to
render the returns of the Mensse regular & at stated times

But besides these causes of this Haemorrhage, there appears
to be some other originally producing it. And there appear-
ing to be a particular power in the period of 28 days
to make it return, depends upon one of these affections
of the living power, which do not arise from any external
cause, & of which therefore we cannot account for. —

The Menstrua may be obstructed principally from two
causes, from such as occasion Contraction of the Vessels
of the womb, & such as diminish the action of the Ar-
teries. Obstructions of the Mensse tho' are more fre-
quent from causes producing contraction of the Vessels

of the Nipples of the womb, than from such as diminish the Action of the Arteries. Now exposure to cold just before the Time of the Menses, or when they are present, will produce such contraction of the Nipples as to prevent or impede the Evacuation, if it be stopped from any cause it continues so, it does not return at the next Period.

In like manner Anxiety just before or during the Period of the Discharge will prevent, or impede it, as this produces contraction of the exterior Nipples & those of the womb. It does not return at the next Period.

It has been supposed that viscid Food, eat at the time of Menstruation, would render the Fluids so viscid, as to be incapable of passing thro' the Nipples of the womb, & therefore prevent the Evacuation but Dr. Fordyce is of opinion that we have not sufficient evidence of this being capable of producing such effect.

A constant use of Astringents, or the Application of them to the womb may produce such Contraction and lastly Spasmodic affections of the System, sometimes attack the womb & produce obstruction of the Menses.

Women are particularly Irritable & subject to Spasmodic affections in the other parts of the Body, so that obstructions may arise, as we have said, from this cause acting on the womb.

The Menses may also be prevented by any cause preventing the Arteries of the womb, from acting sufficiently strong or weakness suddenly produced, & that to a considerable degree will occasion an obstruction of the Menses, but this is not a permanent one, for as soon

as the Strength is restored the discharge will return.

Weakeness produced slowly frequently produces obstruction of the Menses & this obstruction is permanent or

All causes then which produce weakness slowly, are also causes of obstruction of the Menses

On the Contrary when the Menses are obstructed from any other cause this species of Weakness is apt to arise

Again as one Inflammation may be carried off by another as the strong action of the Vessel of the part may be diminished or carried off by exciting such an action in the Vessels of another - So a topical Inflammation arising in another part of the Body, will often subdue & stop to the Menstrual Flux, if it should arise during this discharge, while on the other hand, if the Menses shd come on during the Existence of such Inflammation they will often carry it off.

Lastly too of real fullness of the Vessels may produce obstruction of this evacuation, when the Vessels are too full they are prevented from playing freely. Of propelling the Blood thro them with due force, in this case the discharge often happens from some other part of the Body, the Lungs for instance, & is perfectly similar to the Menstrual discharge, being preceded by Inflammatory Symptoms, continues for some time & then goes off without any ill consequence. We should have observed that the Menses are not only suppressed during Gestation, but also during the time of giving suck.

Now if the Menses be obstructed & if there be considerable fullness, a universal sense of fulness all over the system - Swelling of the Breasts &c - the

Kr. Sal. Marchii 3;

Spr. Sabina.

— Rule. ad sp

Gum Myrrh

Aloes. Sapo. et Cinni finij gr. xx

St. Anisi guttas sex

Sink. Castoris q. s. fiant pilule quadraginta
quarum capiat quatuor, his in die

Kr. ffæ. Fabis. drachmas duas

pulu Selleb. nigre drachman

Spr. Calcarant. q. s. fiant pilule triginta
sex. quarum capiat quatuor, his in die
cum Infus. pulicis

in this case it is often useful to take away 8 or 10 OZs.
of Blood, in consequence of which treatment, the Men-
stru will frequently make their appearance in
this case of obstruction more frequently happens in young
Women at the first appearance of this disease, it seldom
happens to Women after Impregnation has taken place

It has been supposed that bleeding in the Foot, was the
preferable Method in this case; but we see no reason why
taking Blood from the Arm, or any other part of the Body
may not succeed as well, as it is a general Evacuation we
wish to make, from the System in general.

If the Obstruction proceeds from Weakness, those means
of Strengthening the System, which we have already, or
may hereafter point out, are to be employed.

Otherwise we attempt to reproduce them, by employing
Stimulating Medicines, & by making these act power-
fully on the Abdominal Viscera. Purgatives in par-
ticular have been employed for this purpose, &c.
stimulating ones particularly Aloes, which have a
disposition to produce Haemorrhages, they have this
disposition is evident from their frequently produc-
ting Haemorrhoids. They are then the most powerful
Emmenagogues we know of for producing this Effect.
They should be given in such Quantities as to produce
one or two evacuations, in a Day. If we purge more
frequently, we shall increase the Weakness & thereby
hinder rather than prevent than promote the Evacuation
of Blood.

Rij: Aloës Surot: ~~sp~~
puls: Senna ~~si~~
Asa faticis:

Gæbæn: colanti
Myrrh ~~aa~~ ~~si~~

Rij: Succin: guttas 60-
dij Myrrh comp. q-s ut fl. Mafsi:

Rij: Pil: Supra prescript dij
fiant pilulae huiusinta set quarum capiat
quatuor hi in die cum coquharibus in
Iulipi sequentis

Rij: Ag: Bayon Comp ~~sp~~
in pulgini ~~st~~
Syr Loxi - ~~st~~
Tinct Belamprodii. dij Micoz
et fiant Iulipum.

Menstrual Flux

Antispasmodic Resinous substances have also been employed for those purposes such as Myrrh, Galbanum, Ahaetulla, Sappaenum, & Opopanax. In Mixture of these with Aloes are the Medicines most frequently successful —

Preparations of Iron have also been employed in these cases, rather however as Strengthening Medicines, than Emmenagogues. They have nevertheless a considerable degree of Stimulus, & in weak lax Habits, where there are obstruction of the bowels, are rather more proper than other Strengthening Remedies, on account of their stimulus. But in women with plethoric Symptoms they are rather detrimental from the Stimulus as, they thereby tend to increase the Plethora —

Mercury has also sometimes been made use of, in this particular effect in these cases, that it has often produces Haemorrhage from the womb. But this seems to be only a common Haemorrhage, not the Menstrual as the discharge does not return regularly afterwards — Sometimes tho' it does —

Stimulants, or Relaxants may also be applied to the parts affected, the vapour of warm water has been used with advantage & perhaps it may be better to impregnate the vapour with some stimulants, & essential oil, as for instance, Infusion, or Decoction of aromatic Herbs.

It is said that the Stimulus, particularly adapted to that part of the Body, is a powerfull Stimulus in producing this evacuation —

Aq: Pulv e Myrrh comp 3*sp*

Brauis grana quindecim

Rad Silleb: nigr grana sex

Six q. f. f. Balsus horae summi fumendas

X. Spurum Ceti (in Vt fahrt.) 3*ij*

N. Amysd: 3.

Tinct: Rose - x *sp*

Aq: pulgii 3*ij*

Blit Myrrh comp 3*ij*

Tinct Thib: fff + +

Inf Capl. Roskt: vi hir in air

Capiat six: Myrrha Comp cochlear: minimum

ter in air in haust infusionis pulgii

These then are the Remedies we employ in cases of obstruction of the Menses - the Menses on the other hand either in consequence of the weakness of the System, or of the womb, or from frequent Abortions, may continue too long, & in too great Quantity, this also happens to Aetharic Women.

Purgings then & other evacuations, are to be employed as Bleeding - it is however but seldom that this happens from PLETHORA, it more frequently arises in weak Women in the Vegetable Bitter Astringents then which are the preferable ones, as they act slowly & permanantly such as Bark &c may be employed advantageously - It is better to make Infusions of these in Wine & Water, in this, than to employ them in substance, & we ought generally to add some Spice to render them more agreeable to the Stomach & Intestines these being generally weak at the same time with this affection of the System.

When the Menstrual Flux ceases off, if fullness should arise as it commonly does from want of that evacuation it is useful to employ Bleeding, two or three times, & to administer purgatives which produce considerable evacuation, in order to take off this disposition to fullness.

Now the Causes, & uses of Menstruation have been much disputed, some have supposed that women found a larger quantity of Blood, than was necessary for themselves, that there might be a sufficient stock for the

K. Gum Myrk hulu: If
Sal: Tartari yr r
Sal: Martis: iyr r.
Ag: pura. ~~Erft~~
Ag: Nm & bij ~~Erft~~ ~~Wft~~ Gant
bi in die Sammendus.

Nourishment of the Fetus in Utroq; or forming Milk
served for the support of the Child after Birth. Now in
the first place the Quantity of Blood evacuated at these
periods is very small not more than 6. or 7 Ounces atc;
each period of Evacuation is generally between 3, or 4
days, this Quantity then is not so very considerable in
Women, nor would it seem adequate to the purpose in
above mentioned, & further it cannot be said that the
Menstruation serves this purpose in other Animals
as it only appears in them, at those times when they
disposed to admit the Male, & when we commonly say
they are hot, therefore it cannot be said to be super-
fluous quantity of Fluids formed.

It appears that at first it arises from increased action
of the Vessels — at the age of puberty, when the parts
of Generation are enlarged, the growth of the Body
ceases for a little time, the organs of Digestion are pow-
erful & therefore a great quantity of Blood is formed
At this time too the increase of the parts of Generation
acts as a stimulus, which increases the action of the Vessels
whence sometimes, when this Evacuation has not broke
out, Inflammations & consequent suppurations of
these parts have followed.

Debility we have said produces an irregularity in all
the Functions of the Body generally, & among others Men-
struation does not take place, sometimes too the Men-
strua are stoppt in consequence of Weakness, arising from
Causes producing it slowly, & from Spasmodic affections,
Now if they should not break at the proper periods of

Life, or if they should be obstructed from Plethora, universal fullness, pains in different parts of the Body, want of Digestion & depraved Appetite are apt to arise, & cannot be removed until they appear again. If on the contrary the obstruction arises in weakly Habits, universal weakness, prostration of Strength, depraved Appetite &c in both Cases disposition to Infertile affections takes place, very often violent disorders are the consequence, violent & stern fits want of Sleep. Appearances threatening death, continuing perhaps for two, or three Days - Notwithstanding this apparent Violence they frequently go off themselves & if the Menstrua break out, they immediately disappear.

Very frequently too they are in two great Quantity - from too great Saturation of the Vessels & continue for a longer time. - This often happens in consequence of Abortions and violent Labours & produce that species of Weakness which, as was said, comes on slowly. & is difficultly removed.

When the Menses have once taken place, the Habit acquired is sufficient to reproduce them, whether in weakly or in strong persons, at a certain period, so that they do not depend upon Plethora. In other Animals tho we can accelerate their Appearance by stimulating the skin, & exciting fullness. or we can retard them by keeping the Animal in a cool atmosphere & a low diet so that this discharge would seem to depend upon Plethora in all but the Human Species.

At the time of going off of the Menstrua, the Moonrash becomes irregular, at the same time pains about the Abdomen Indigestion & generall Symptoms of Weakness come on. These Symptoms generally affect women for a year or so, before the Discharge totally disappears so that they, for this time, commonly enjoy an ill state of Health.

We have now gone thro' the Causes Symptoms, progress and manner of Treatment, of Weakness produced quickly, which weakness if it continued by living in an impure atmosphere &c will degenerate into the 2^o. Species. We shall then in the next place proceed to point out the several circumstances of that weakness which is produced slowly, is more obstinate, & difficult of Cure.

In the first place then, when weakness is produced slowly from any cause, or from any of these causes already enumerated, the Stomach & Intestines are considerably disordered, the Appetite is lost, notwithstanding that the Blood Vessels are often empty. The power of Digestion is diminished, the Food heats the System, during the time of its digestion, much more than in a natural state. Nausea, flatulencies, & pain often take place.

The Intestines seldom perform their functions properly either the Peristaltic Motion goes on slowly & the liver Vessels are produced, or, it goes on too quickly & purging arises. The muscular strength is considerably diminished & the Heart & Arteries act weakly, at the same time there is often Contraction, or Tension of the Vessels, the Pulse becomes weak & small, but this small pulse is attended

Weakness of the 2nd Species

with Contraction, the Nipples being thus contracted on the Blood, there is frequently some degree of Stimulus whence the Pulse also becomes more frequent — The fisheries are also apt to act irregularly. The Evening paroxysm of Fever is increased is apparent & produces more considerable Effects, the patient is restless & uneasy, & prevented from sleeping the first two or three hours of the Night. The Organs of Digestion are considerably hurt. On the Febrile Symptoms go off in the Morning with Sweating. A universal Anguish takes place & the Mind is also affected with the weariness in Spasmodic affections are apt to arise in diffⁿ. parts of the Body, as pains in the Forehead, &c the patient is emaciated & often continues to become more & more so. In this situation the Disease may remain for a Number of Years, with little alteration excepting the Anxiety that arises in the patients Mind, on account of Health. Sometimes these Symptoms gradually go off, at others they increase & destroy.

There is one peculiar Symptom that is apt to take place in both Species of Weakness, viz Pain in the small of the Back especially upon any Motion, or Exercise, but what the cause of it is, we do not know. It arises probably from the Spinal Marrow being affected it is however apt to arise, when there is any spasticcular Evacuation from the lower part of the Body, as Involuntary Impulses of Semen, Gonorrhœa, or Flux album.

And if the Weakness should increase Tropical swellings arise, these also take place in both species but

in the first & they generally go off, with the weakness as the patient recovers. Edematous swellings then come on especially in the Evening, & sometimes general dropsy is produced, & sometimes when the weakness continues, when no dropsy takes place, considerable evacuations from the mucous glands arise —

Sometimes the Breast is affected, & difficulty of breathing produced, as also an increased secretion from the Glands of the Breast —

In the Evening Paroxysm of Fever is increased, the Pulse becomes more frequent during the day, & the weakness increases often, if there be any continued cause, as Vaccination, or Irritation, till the Patient is cut off — It often happens in these cases, that from any Irritation increased secretions will arise from the different Glands of the Body, as profuse Sweats, Menses, haemorrhages, Purpura, Gomorrhœa, Fluxus Albus, increased secretions from the lungs, Involuntary Ejaculations of Semen &c. To these several discharges we annex the epithet, — Colliquative, denominating them Colliquative purings —

The increased functions in the first Species of weakness are generally of little consequence, as they specially disappear — But in the second Species by continuing they hasten the patients End, the weakness continues to increase till it proves fatal —

It is not common for the weakness to destroy, unless dropsy should take place, or some particular irritation

Weakness of the Species

upon the System, But the patient continues Languid, & anxious & these symptoms will sometimes continue for two or three Years, sometimes for the patients Life.

This Species of Weakness is much more difficultly removed than the first - It requires that all the Means of Strengthening the System be employed & frequently all these prove insufficient -

Having shewn you the Symptoms which arise in cases of weakness, & frequently with the symptoms of other diseases, we come in the next place to shew you the Means of Strengthening the System -

In order to explain the subject more fully, we must remind you of what has been already Advanced, when speaking of the Natural History of the Human Body, As vizt. That there was a certain Power of Motion in the moving parts, independant of any Communication of Motion - that the moving parts were themselves capable of beginning Action, without any external Communication, without the communication of any external power on Motion - Matter is in itself entirely inactive, It tends to remain always in the same situation. If at Rest, it is disposed by Gravity at Rest, if in motion, to continue in that state, It is only some external power, that is capable of exciting it to Motion - It is only an external power, that is capable of putting it to Rest, if once put in Action - It is then not in consequence of any Action of Matter

and consequently not of any particular Configuration
of parts, that the moving parts act or move themselves
or make others act.

Now we shall not enquire whether Original power
of Motion arises in the Brain, & from thence is con-
veyed to the moving parts, or whether it arises origi-
nally in the parts themselves, this we have already treated

of. But every Motion that arises in Matter is in propor-
tion to the power producing it, by a small power then
as we commonly speak, by a small quantity of power
we cannot produce a great quantity of motion.

The quantity of power must be in proportion to the
quantity of motion.

Now the original power of Motion in the Animal Body
is not infinite: The moving parts cannot produce a
certain any quantity of Motion you please, they can
only produce a certain quantity of Motion in a certain
given time, & the power of Motion is constantly flowing
into the System, so that you can produce more original
Motion in two hours, than you probably can in one.
There is then always a certain Quantity of power flowing
into the System, capable of producing a certain quantity
of Motion (original).

There are certain Motions in the Body, that must be
performed, otherwise the Animal cannot live, the
Arteries & Capillaries must contract, so as to adapt them-
selves to the quantity of Fluids contained, otherwise
death is produced.

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Nature of the Species

The muscles of Respiration must admit & allow out a sufficient quantity of respirable Air, in a given time otherwise the Animal dies —

There are some Motions tho', not absolutely immediately necessary to Life, yet if they are not performed in some Degree Death is the Consequence, thus the Peristaltic Motion of the Intestines may be diminished without producing Disease, but if it be totally suspended it proves fatal —

These Motions then exhaust a certain Quantity of Living power & the remaining part of this power is left to be exhausted in the Muscles, or Vessels, to produce stronger contractions, or Actions of these or other parts of the System, as there may be occasion

Now we may consider strengthening the System in two lights, the first can maybe bring this by taking of the necessity of so much of the power to act, in order that it should produce these necessary Motions Or we may consider the Body as strengthened by encouraging the Generation of power, or increasing the flow of it into the System —

There may be two Methods of Strengthening the System, the one is preventing so much power from being employed, or exhausted in the performance of the necessary Motions, of the Body, & the other of second Method is actually increasing the generation of it, or

Magnitude of the Species

is flowing into the System, —

We shall in the first place, consider those Remedies which are employed to prevent the Living power from being exhausted — If the Vessels contain but a small Quantity of Blood, as it is absolutely necessary that they should contract, so as to adapt themselves to the quantity contained, it appears that it will require the greater contraction in them, the smaller the quantity of Fluids is, that they contain —

Emptiness of the Vessels then must exhaust the Living power, Of course filling the Vessels prevents the power from being exhausted & strengthens the System —

There are two ways in which the Vessels may be supposed to be, in which they may be filled, the one is diminishing the evacuations from the System the other is throwing into them a greater quantity of Fluids —

We cannot diminish the natural Evacuations without producing Disease, But we can fill the Vessels, so as to produce Strength, only by the use of nourishing food —

But in order to employ this Remedy, so as to strengthen the System, there are certain Circumstances to be particularly taken into Consideration — In the first place the Disposition in the Vessels to contract, or relax, to receive or not admit a greater quantity of Blood —

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Makings of the Species

The Tone of the Vessels is at times very various, allow
some their disposition to contract is much greater at
another much less. Now when this disposition to con-
tract is considerable, by distending them we should
stimulate, & rather increase that disposition in
Hence we find in Acute Fevers, & in other cases where
the Vessels are disposed to contract much, that, if we
employ Food of considerable nourishment, we weaken
instead of Strengthening the System.

We are therefore not to endeavour to throw in more
Blood, than is sufficient for their present Tonr, or
disposition in the Vessels to contract.

But by Exercise of the Muscles, we are frequently
enabled to take off this disposition to contraction in the
Vessels.

The Living Power may be disposed to act in
one part more than in another part of the Body.
You find that part of the Body which is most em-
ployed, is naturally more disposed to act, than the
others.

Thus the Arms of a Blacksmith become
strong, while his Legs may be weak & for the same
Reason the Legs of a Dancing Master become pro-
portionably stronger than the other parts of the System.
It is that part of the Body then which is most exerted
that becomes stronger, & more disposed to act.

Now by making the Muscles act strongly, we can
diminish the action of the Vessels, very often &
dispose them to receive a larger quantity of Blood.

The Stomach then should be in proportion to the Divided Vessels, by this we can render the System capable of receiving a larger quantity of Blood.

But we must further observe, that there must be, not only a disposition in the Vessels to receive a larger Quantity, but also a power in the Organs of Digestion to assimilate all the Food thrown into the Stomach, is not converted into Blood: if it were, we should often find many Inconveniences arising from it, & indeed this is a Matter, that has not been sufficiently considered. You shall see for instance one Man, who shall not eat half a pound of Meat altogether, at a Meal, & yet be sufficiently nourished, Another at the same time shall eat five or six pounds, whose Body is of the same size as the former, his Vessels, the same Dan yet his Vessels shall not become fuller, shall not be more distended, than the other Mans: - The Food at the same time is all digested, in some manner so as not to appear.

It is difficult to say what becomes of the Food in that case, but certain it is that it is not converted into Blood, otherwise the Vessels of the one would be much more considerably distended, than those of the other, It is however decomposed, converted into water, & in this form thrown out of the System by the several Secretory, & Excretory Organs.

If then the Organs of Digestion be out of order, you may exhibit a considerable quantity of nourishment, the Body is not thereby nourished: hence we

a less quantity of Blood, frequently formed from a large quantity of Food, than at another time shall be formed, from a much smaller quantity now.

Since then the Effects of Food, depends so much upon the Organs of Digestion, we cannot so well tell what Food is best, or most nutritious, for the generality of People.

A fat Poster would not be nourished by Finaceous Vegetable Diet, or Food of very easy Digestion, tho' this be given in considerable Quantity, Bacon is a Food that is much more difficultly digest'd, & yet he becomes stronger & is more nourished by it in

On the Contrary if you should give this Food to a Immature, he could not digest it he would be stimulated by it & his Weakness rather increased.

The Food then must be according to the state of the Organs of Digestion according as they are supposed to act strongly, or weakly. It must be of more or less difficult Digestion, according to the circumstances of the digesting powers.

But besides this if Food be employed which is incapable of being digested by the powers of the Stomach or such Food instead of nourishing produces Disease during its stay in this part. It either produces Colic, or it heats & stimulates the System, sometimes to that degree, as to prove Fatal, as we see sometimes happens after eating Muscles & other fleshy

Weakness of the Species

By this means it weakens, instead of strengthening the System
The Food then should be in proportion, or
according to the state of the Organs of Digestion.

But the power of Digestion depends a good deal on the disposition of the Vessels to receive, or not receive a greater quantity of Blood. When they are disposed to receive a larger quantity, then the Organs of Digestion are commonly disposed to form such a quantity. On the contrary when, they are disposed to admit that quantity, the Organs of Digestion are incapable of forming it.

Hence Vacu actions & Exercise, by taking off the disposition in the Vessels to contract, produce Hunger & strengthen the Organs of Digestion.
Sometimes the Organs of Digestion

by acids, then as
Etc. Schilli given an Hour or two before Meathime
they are made capable of digesting a considerable quantity of Food.

The Second Species of Remedies which
strengthen, by preventing the Living power from
being exhausted, is cold. Living Constantly in a cold
Atmosphere, or sudden exposure to cold, as in the cold
Bath is found in general that Men living in
Cold Climates, the Inhabitants of the Northern Climates
much stronger than the Inhabitants of warm Climates
or the more Southern ones. The heat in the one case
weakens the body in the other strengthens the system.

Weakness of the Species

Now employing the large Vessels of the System, tends to weaken much more than employing the small ones. Or if we express the same meaning in other words, it requires a greater quantity of Living power to be exerted, to produce a greater degree of Contraction in the larger than in the smaller Vessels.

But when a Man lives in a Warm Atmosphere a great quantity of the Blood, is made to circulate in the exterior Vessels; The small Vessels then are filled with Blood & the larger are rendered empty. A Man hence feels an emptiness & weakness about the Maculae.

On the contrary by cold, the Peripheral circulation is diminished, The Interior Vessels are filled, & the System is, in consequence, strengthened. Besides by living in a warm Atmosphere the Heat produces a constant stimulus, & by this means it has so weakened the System.

When a Man lives in the cold, there is less action, no such stimulus takes place, & therefore not so great an expense of the Living power. Living then in a cold Atmosphere, strengthens the System.

Exposure to cold in the cold Bath, produces in some degree the same Effect. It makes the Peripheral Vessels contract, & keeps the Blood in the interior parts.

Either living in a colder Atmosphere, or Exposure to cold, tends to strengthen the System, but in both

Mechanics of the Species

The Exposure to Cold must be under certain Circumstances, otherwise the Body will be diseased, & would thence instead of being Strengthened, be weakened. In the first place living in a cold Atmosphere, or in coming from a Warm to a Colder Climate, there are two Methods to be observed, the Change should be gradually made, as by sudden exposure to cold, the interior Vessels will be disturbed beyond their Tame. & plethoric Symptoms produced, & it is necessary in the second place to observe that if there be any Disease about the Breast going into a colder Atmosphere, as it occasions a greater quantity of Blood to be thrown on the Lungs, increases the Disease in general, & does mischief instead of doing good.

The Cold Bath is very uncertain in its effects, it as frequently weakens, as strengthens the System. The Operation of the Cold Bath, & the Effects of a constant exposure to cold, are exceeding by different Persons, suddenly jumping into the cold Bath, the External Circulation is diminished, the exterior parts become pale, & the interior Vessels become disturbed, if no disease ensues (which is seldom the Case) the interior Vessels being agitated by the disturbance, upon coming out of the Bath, the heat to overcome the Resistance made to their actions by the Contraction of the Capillaries, produce a universal Glow of Heat.

This then is very different from the Effects of a constant & uniform Exposure to cold & very often

Weakeness of the Species

weakens instead of Strengthening the System.

The Cold Bath is however useful in some Cases, viz; when there are partial Contractions without producing any considerable Disease; In this Case the Cold Bath by occasioning the Blood to be thrown forcibly into the exterior Vessels often overcomes the Partial Contractions & thus proves useful, & indeed where it does produce good effects it is generally in these Cases.

The Bath which contains some Astringent Substances, as Sea Water for instance, strengthens much more than plain or simple Water: The Action of such Bath is not so sudden, but its effects are more permanent: so that Sea Bathing is generally more useful than Bathing in plain, or common Water, & indeed it is a Question whether cold Bathing should be at all reckoned as a strengthening Remedy, as it very often weakens instead of Strengthening the System.

Yesterday we began to shew you the means of Strengthening the System, to shew that it might be strengthened, by the Exhibition of good Food, of Food of good Nourishment, & by Exposure of the Body to Cold, under certain Circumstances.

The next means of Strengthening the System, is making the patient breathe pure Air, It is necessary that a certain quantity of pure Respirable Air be drawn

Weakness of the Species

into the Lungs, If there is not a sufficient Quantity
the Strength is depraved, & if the quantity be very
small the depression rises to so great a degree as to
prove fatal.

All impure impure Air with its un-
fit for Respiration, produces a depression of
Strength & by this means weakens the System in
for when there is but a small quantity of Respirable
Air in the Atmosphere, the Muscles of Respiration
are made to act more frequently, & of course a greater
quantity of living power is exhausted in

But in the first place the Air is rendered impure
in large Cities, or where there is a numerous concours of
people, In such situations, Men & other Animals breathing
the same air, render it unfit for Respiration, the
great Quantities too of Fuel, that is employed, & the
great quantities of Sulphuric Vapour, that must be
generated in such places render the Air still more
unfit for Respiration, this Air then commonly weakens
the System in

The Air is generally heated in most of those Cases, by
which means it is carried up towards the Superior parts
of the Atmosphere, & perhaps would be carried off en-
tirely, but that it is of much greater Specific Gravity
than Respirable Air, or the Atmosphere —
such Vapours then fall down again, & were it not for
Winds, for the Circulation of the Atmosphere, the Air of
such places (as of London for instance) could hardly
be inspired without proving fatal to a number of Inhabit-

Mechanics of the Species

Further when water stagnates & moistens a quantity of Vegetables, these putrefy & fill the air with vapours unfit for Respiration, in those cases then the air, is impure at the same time that the moisture, with which it is impregnated, renders it apt to produce Diseases.

Where there is a Bed of clay, Rain falling upon such surfaces, is capable of being absorbed, hence it remains & putrefies, & renders the air unfit for Respiration, On the other hand in Gravelly & chalky soils the water that falls, immediately finds an easy passage thro' them, so that the ground is constantly dry. No putrefaction, or disease takes place, If then the air be brought pure to these parts, it remains pure, & the air is carried by the winds to the parts of the Country.

As there is always in large Towns a considerable quantity of impure air formed, one would imagine the Atmosphere would at last be filled with vapour unfit for Respiration, as to destroy all Animals & Vegetables, But this air is taken up again & separated from the Atmosphere, If you take a quantity of such air, & put it into a Bottle of water that air will be taken up by the water, so as to disappear.

Water then absorbs, takes up all air unfit for Respiration, provided it be not itself in a state of Putrefaction or Emulsion of such vapours

The Air, then, is constantly falling down, & falling on running Water, is by it absorbed & carried off there.

And if there be any pits or cavities in the Earth, they are soon filled with such Putrid Vapours. The foul Air found in such places does not arise from the Earth, because if you dig a pit anywhere it will soon be filled with the same Vapours, The Air then falls down into such Places.

Now Air being thus purified by running water the Atmosphere near such water is generally pure & fit for Respiration, The Air after having passed thro a large Town, still continues loaded with Vapours unfit for Respiration, & these continue to fall down for several Miles distance from such Towns.

And the Air near a large Town, is purer than in of Town itself yet it is not so pure as at a greater distance, The Air at 20 or 30 Miles distance, is much more pure than within 3. or 4 Miles of such Town & the Strength is more perfectly established by breathing such Air, than Air near the Town.

Air has been considered as particularly pure high upon Hills. It is tho often not so proper for weak Persons, who are very Irritable, because on Hills, there are often & exposures to cold, which produce Disease in Persons of weak & Irritable Habits & such cold increasing the flow of Blood upon the Lungs increases any Disease of the Breast to which they may be affected, - But if there be no such Disease of the

Weakness of the Species

disease of the Breast & the patient be weak, perhaps the cold contributes, as well, as the purity of the air to restrain his strength.

If the weakness be not attended with a great degree of Irritability & disposition to disease, if the Breast be not affected, then such Air is advantageous.

But if the Breast be affected, if the patient be weak & Irritable, & has a disposition to disease, then a warmer Atmosphere is preferable. Every Disease tends to weaken the System, It frequently happens in weak patients that there are some Mental affections, which being overlooked & considered only as symptoms of weakness, tend to render the weakness more obstinate.

In such cases of obstinate weakness, by changing the whole System, by changing of Climates, whether warmer or colder, we are frequently able to restore the Strength.

But these means of restoring the strength can only be used in general by People of better Fortune, for if the Change be attended with any Anxiety from any cause, from want of circumstances in the - if the Change be only from one Business to another, it will have no power of restoring the strength.

Anxiety of mind is itself capable of producing weakness - there is not a more powerful means of exhausting the strength than Anxiety.

Weakness of the Species

Whatever means then we may employ of strengthening the system, it is at the same time absolutely necessary to remove Anxiety from the Mind.

This is not to be accomplished by Medicines, nor by advice but by presenting the Mind with agreeable objects - by taking off its attention to the Disease of the Body or other circumstances capable of producing, or increasing this affection. It is from this that Mineral waters have acquired so much reputation for their power in strengthening the System. You give him hope by sending him to these waters. You then engage his Mind with agreeable Objects. You take off his attention from his disease & free him from Anxiety.

It does not seem to be a matter of any consequence what be the means you employ, whether they be the drinking of Bristol Bath, or any other waters, whether they be bathing in the sea, drinking Spas Water &c. so that the Anxiety be taken off, or removed, they all produce the same Effect.

The efficacy of the Remedies, depends on taking off the Anxiety of the Mind. Neither Steel, Chalk, or Salts with which these waters are universally impregnated can they have any kind of power in taking off the Anxiety of the Mind. Nor has water in it would be hurtful, if there were no such places, the more reputation you give to any of these means, the

Weakness of the Species

greater Benefit you produce the patient, as you give him Hope of being freed from his Disease.

There is in these cases a disposition in the mind to believe something wonderful of these waters Dr Dr and we on our parts, should not endeavour to put them in their true lights, nor discommend them: If we should do so, we should thence lose, or be deprived of a very powerful means of strengthening the system in many cases.

But if you were to erect a stone in a pure air, & in a particular place I desire the patient with the same strong assurance of its passing beneficial, to walk round that stone 3, or 4 times every Morning fasting, for some time it would produce exactly the same effect. These then are the means we employ, to prevent the living power, from being exhausted.

We next come to point out those means, we employ to increase the Generation, or flow of living power into the System. — In the first place by frequent exercis of the powers of the Body, you producing an habit of strong action in. You see that by habitualizing, or frequently exerting the powers of the Body & Mind, some people will acquire a considerable power of Body & firmness of Mind, We may increase the Action either in the Muscles, or in the Nerves, But we strengthen the System much more, by exerting the Muscles, than the Nerves, because the Nerves are ra-

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Weakness of the Species

usually so disposed to act themselves, that, by increasing their actions, we run a risque of producing particular strong action of them ~~upon~~

Stimulants Then are only useful as strengtheners where the Nerves do not act sufficiently powerful on the contained Fluids, where the Pulse is soft, where increased secretion take place, the Muscles weak & where there are appearances of Laziness In such cases Stimulants by increasing the action of the Nerves upon the Fluids, tend to strengthen the System They must tho be employed in small quantities, otherwise they will increase the weakness, & they ^{will} generally be given together with Bitter & strengthening Remedies, that the Strength of System in general may be increased at the same time

But Exercise is one of the most powerful means of strengthening the System, It must be performed in certain Circumstances, or with certain precautions otherwise it would rather tend to increase the weakness than restore the Strength

In the first place then, it should be equal & universal, Exerting the actions of a particular part is so far from strengthening, that it weakens the System, because we draw the living power, from all the other parts of the Body to be exerted in this particular part, by which means this part only becomes stronger

Weakness of the Species

Now the best Exercise if we use a severe one, or being of most universal is riding on Horseback, because in this all the Muscles of the Body, are nearly equally exerted at the same time.

But if we use a more gentle Ex-
ercise, Riding in a Carriage is preferable to others, as it also has the Advantage of being universal.

Exercise tho' in order that it should prove a good Remedy, should not be rigidly to except, except may be pro-
duced in two ways, The Exercise may be carried on an Ethem at one particular time, in which case however it is not so prejudicial, as the Weakness thence arising is sooner re-
moved, or the fits or repetitions of Exercise may be too
frequent, which produce a greater degree of weakness
& one that is removed with more difficulty.

It should then be moderate neither too violent nor too frequently repeated. As if it be already too frequent a larger rest is necessary to restore the Strength. It should also be performed in a pure Air. Impure
Air, by producing external Contraction increases the quantity of Blood, in the interior parts, hence a more frequent Respiration is required & there is a greater expence of the Living power, consequently greater Weakness is produced. Accordingly we find those several Exercises which physicians have contrived for strengthening the system, in Houses, or within doors have failed from this circumstance of producing the Effect.

Weakness of the Species

Exercise then should be performed in a pure open air
It is to be observed that if, at the same time Anxiety attends
the Exercise will fail of success. Moreover than that the Exer-
cise produces the wished for effects, it is necessary that the
patient be presented with agreeable objects to engage his
attention & prevent Anxiety.

In all cases then where we
use Exercise, we should endeavour to engage the patient's
attention in an agreeable manner, in which case an Ex-
ercise which otherwise would be less proper, for instance
Riding after a pack of Fox Hounds, will be more effectual
in restoring the strength than a more gentle & better-
adapted exercise attended with Anxiety.

These then are
the Requisites in Exercise in order that it should attend
upon the System —

In the last case there are certain Me-
dicines which tends to increase the Strength of the System
These are in general the Bark & other bitter Medicines
as Camomile, Wormwood, Colombo, Gentian & most of
its species, the bark of Orange-Sorrows & other bitter
Vegetables which in general all possess the same juice

Besides these preparations of Iron have a power of
strengthening the System — Before we were acquainted
with the Bark, we employed preparations of Iron
for these purposes — Now preparations of Iron have
all a particular stimulus, which renders them exceed-
ingly improper, where there is any strong action or
Tension of the Nerves, as in Melancholia Habitum

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Weakness of the Species

If we make use of the preparations of Iron, it is better to use the Salces - which dissolve in the Ammoniacal salts of the Stomach, or if we should employ the saline preparations they ought to be diluted in a pretty large quantity of water &c.

If we use these Medicines where the System has been suddenly weakened, we can often speedily remove the weakness & restore the Strength again. In these cases it is better to employ them in Infusions or decoctions than in Infusions Substance, as, they are in such forms more agreeable to the Stomach, & for these purposes they may be employed in considerable quantity.

If the weakness tho' be produced shortly by giving these Medicines in considerable quantity the patient will seem for a short time to grow much better. But they soon loose their Efficacy, & the patient becomes weaker.

The Bark then given in the quantity of three or four drams in 24 hours will be sufficient & is preferable to large Quantities - But in this way the Medicine after some time seems to loose its efficacy & the patient not benefitted by its continuance - In this case it is often of use to change the Medicine & employ the preparations of Iron at one time, then to make use of the Bark & again to administer the bitter Remedies, after which the Bark may again be employed, so as to carry off the disease.

Or if the Bark alone be exhibited, when it begins to lose

Weakness of the Species

its effects, by omitting its use for 8 or 10 days & then recurring but, it will by this omission have recovered its powers & may then be exhibited with advantage.

During the use of these remedies we should attend to the state of the patients intestines & if constive should evacuate them, Rhubarb, Aloes, Marmal, & those Medicines which increase the peristaltic Motion, without increasing the secretion from their Glands are the preferable Recurrents in these cases, but to the Aloes there is frequently an objection to be made from their disposition to produce Hemorrhages in weakly persons, the Aromaticks in Men & Menses in Women, & to the Rhubarb there is also an objection, on account of its disposition to produce diarrhea, after its purgative power ceases — In these cases then Sulphur, Lenitive Electuary, Anna & other milder Vegetable cathartics are preferable, & Salap & other more powerful Stimulants, may also be employed but in small quantities & mixed with other milder Recurrents.

These then are the several means of Strengthening the System & of carrying off that weakness which is slowly produced —

We have said that it requires all the means of Strengthening the System, & that these are frequently insufficient for the purpose — Now the means we employ are first giving Food of good nourishment — the disorder however in the Organs of Digestion, renders it very difficult to employ Food that can be digested —

Weakness of the Species

In the first Species of Weakness, the organs of Digestion are in perfect good Order, & therefore Food can be digested, but the contrary happens in the 2^d Species, therefore it is necessary to take off the particular affection of the Intestinal Canal, If the Stomach be loaded with Viscid Mucus it is necessary to give a Vomit, If there be Gaucia, pains of the Stomach, no acid Excretions In it is probable this is the Case, but by frequently repeating the Emetic we weaken the Sphincter, It is also necessary to clear the prima Via by a purgative, If there be Acidities in these parts, it is better to evacuate them, if these be accidental Alkalies may be given with advantage otherwise a Mixture of Magnesia & absorbent Earths is better

Vegetable Food too being apt to produce such Acidities, is inconvenient in these Cases, Animal Food is subject to putrescency: so that we are often at a loss what Food to give.

It is observable that in these Cases when Acidities have been apt to be formed tho' little or no Vegetable Food be given, giving such substances as Greens for instance with Vinegar &c are of use

Animal Oils as Butter &c are in such Cases apt to produce Acidities & are therefore improper in

If the Stomach be capable of digesting good Food, that is Food of good nourishment it should be employed otherwise such Food rather weakens, than strengthens the Sphincter

Milk, Animal Broths, not viscid,

Weakness of Species

that is, prepared from the Flesh of old Animals which has less Viscidity than the Flesh of young ones, & Farinaceous Juices have all in these cases of the easiest Digestion. It is a common Error to employ Animal Fibres in these cases, as very Nutritive Food & of easy Digestion, but they should undoubtedly be rejected, as all substances of Muscled & Gelatinous parts are of difficult Digestion in such States.

It happens frequently when the Body is considerably emaciated, that the Vessels are still contracted, in this case the Organs of Digestion are incapable of making Blood, & Exercise is the only Remedy for removing such contraction, by drawing a greater Quantity of Living Power from them to be exerted in the Muscles, whereby they acquire a disposition to admit more Blood, & the Organs of Digestion a power of preparing it.

Some have been absurd enough, to suppose that old Strengthens by bracing the Fibres, but the Strength of the System does not depend upon the Force of the Simple Fibres, but upon the quantity of living power distributed thro' the System, Besides that the Heat of the Body, is always the same, when in Health, in the hottest & coldest Climate, so that the simple Fibres can suffer no Change in their degree of tension, from alterations in the heat of the Body.

A temporary application of Lodo has always been employed for these purposes. Now if the water we employ be exceeding
P

Weakness of the Species

Cold, the Effects of it are very precarious, By this the exterior Vessels made to contract, the Blood is known suddenly in the interior parts, as the Heart &c by this they suffer a sudden Distension, are Stimulated & excited to act, & when the Cold is removed, they throw the Blood forcibly, on the interior parts, take off the contraction of the Capillaries &c so as often to produce sweat, which may cause Weakness, such Application of Cold as this is of use in taking off particularly Internal Contractions as we have already said.

Bathing them in water not quite so cold, particu-
larly if it contains somewhat Astringent as Sea-
water is preferable for Strengthening the System
The Contraction it produces is not so sudden, but it
is more permanent.

Mysteric Disease

A disease which depends principally upon weakness in most Cases is the Mysterie, or Mysterious Habit in
This Disease is principally incident to the Female Sex.
It sometimes happens in Men, but arises in them but ful-
dom

There are different Dispositions in the Human Body
which render it subject to particular Diseases & these
different Dispositions have been generally, or commonly
called Temperaments, they have been generally considered
as four at least by the Ancients, viz the Sanguineous
Vivious, Phlegmatic, & Melancholic.

Now there is in Mankind unquestioned by a foundation
for the Supposition of the four Temperaments par-
ticular diseases are apt to arise in Persons of some of
these Dispositions, than in those of the others, But the
Temperaments themselves have not been well defined
nor have been so fully or perfectly Considered as they
justly deserve, the Subject being a Complicated one
and the Varieties, & Dispositions of People being con-
sidered, not only with the Temperaments, but with
other causes of

When a Child is born its veseps are larger in
proportion to the other parts of the Body there is
commonly a greater quantity of superfluous water, & in

Asthmatic Disease

Consequence of this, & the greater part of the Vessels, the secretions are much greater, at the same time the Irritability is much more considerable — The Irritability tho' is not in proportion to the size of a Child. A Child may be as little Irritable as a young Person. The Irritability tho', is much greater in general than in Adults.

At the same time with the Irritability of the System a Child is not so subject to particular Diseases, nor, do Diseases of tho', their Natural progress with the same obstinacy, as they do in grown Persons, but the Irritability of the System is the principal affection.

As a Child grows up these peculiarities diminish but more soon than in Women, in whom they continue thro' their life time — The size of the Vessels is greater in proportion to the other parts, there is often the same disposition to increased, or great secretions & the same Irritability of the System continued.

This peculiar disposition we call the Phlegmatic Temperament, this happens sometimes in Men, tho' not often in so great a degree.

This peculiar Irritability of the System in Women renders them particularly liable to the Asthmatic Disease.

This disease tho' generally proceeds from two immediate causes — from Plethora, which in

Ry: Gum Galban: rotuli unciam
Castor Rustici drachmas duas
Balsam purum: guttas octoginta
V. Nuci Moschata vel V. Succini 3ij
in Rute sing guttas quadragena

Mf. Emplast abdomini applicandum.

Ry: Galban rotuli unciam.
Opii drachman

Mf. Emplast: regioni umbilici applicandum.

Ry: Gum Galban: rotuli Simunciam

Nitelli Ovi q. f.

Suet e bacca Lauri drachm' set.

V. Oliveri 3ij

Duct: pro emmalle uncias et

Micr siat Surma

Hysteria disease

More generally, produce Inflammatory symptoms but in women Hysterical Affections, particularly if the Menstrua should not appear, at their proper periods.

Weakeness also is a frequent cause of this Disease any Cause weakening the System subjects Women to Hysterical Diseases --

Now the Hysteria disease is rather an Habit-acquired, than a Disease, It subsists when there is no variations in the Natural Functions of the Body, but upon the slightest variation it will make its appearance - This Inhabitability renders, or, Subjects the Body to all the Diseases ⁱⁿ which are incident to it, but these diseases do not go thro their ordinary progrss, they assume quite a new appearance, For example a Febrile affection shall come on, & attack a person, a cold fit shall take place, a Hot Fit afterwards arises, this is followed by a lysis, & the disease goes off, but instead of continuing for 8. or 10 hours, it shall be terminated in as many Minutes, All the violent Symptoms of Fever, shall nevertheless arise in this time, Nausea, Headach, Stupor, Delirium, & other violent Febrile symptoms, On the paroxysm shall not go thro its natural full progress, but go off in the middle of the Hot Fit,

In like manner an Inflammation shall affect the patient, with all the symptoms of phlegmonous Inflammation, as swelling, hardness, heat

R: Pil Gummos drachmas duas
pulu Benzib drachmam
Camphora scrupulum
Opii grana sex

Misce fiant pilulas quadraginta, quarum capsulas
tes, ter in die, super libendo coquatur: quatuor
julepi sequentia

R: Ag Menth spiss unicas sex
Sind Tulijen drachmas tres
Syr Simpli: Simanciam
Ag Nm uniam.

Inf Julepam

R: Cal: puer: drachmas sex
Rao Malu Sylo: drachm: tres
Cal Winter: drachmas duas
Ag puras libiam

Logue ad velibam: colla et rotulae. a 702.
Ag Lavend C: Simanciam, et cap: coquatur
huius in die.

Hysteric Disease

Prodding, Sension for But unsheat of terminating
in Suppuration, the whole shall go off suddenly

(Not only external but internal Inflammation
proceed in a similar manner, Pain in the Side &
Pleurey shall often arise; but instead of conti-
nuing shall go off suddenly & return again in a
short time, Rheumatic pains & others in diff't
parts of the Body, will proceed in the same manner
Loss of Appetite, Indigestion, Flatulencies, Swelling
of the Belly externally, which would resemble Abscesses
if there was fluctuation, if they were constant
or gave way to pressure)

There are two Epileptic fits
that is the appearance of Epileptic fits, not going
on so as commonly happens in these Affections

All the Diseases then incident to the Human Body
are imitated in the Hysteric Disease, they have
not tho' their natural progress, but they either
go off entirely or return irregularly, as the
appearance of some other disease takes place on

When the Hysteric Disease arises from Obstruk-
tion of Menstruation, especially in young
People, the Symptoms of it continue longer, &
are somewhat different - The pulse generally fe-
quent, sometimes hard & pretty full & strong
there is a want of Sleep a loss of Appetite &
powers of digestion, the patient sometimes

X. Rad Valer pili: drachmas duas
Confit Cardiar drachmas duas
Sal. Rb. Sal ammon scrupulum
Spt Siffr: unciam
Primit Stomach
Spt Lavend: C. & Sem unciam
Ag fruct. uncias septem
Hif Miss: Capit cocti quatuor, rebava quaque
hora

Hysterical Disease

Falls into fits of Delirium, & Convulsive Contractions of the Muscles - which sometimes continue for several Hours & then go off - These sometimes terminate in a regular Fever, This tho' is seldom the case, more frequently they continue till weakness is produced and the ordinary symptoms of weakness in such Attacks take place -

This Disease sometimes weakens Patients very considerably, now, & then, not frequently tho', so that degree as to prove fatal, Sometimes it is accompanied with those Symptoms which attend weakness produced slowly, sometimes it continues for several Years. & at last goes off itself.

If the Hysterical Disease should arise from obstruction of the Menses, or their not appearing at their proper periods, it is useful to take away Blood - very often upon making this Evacuation the Menses appear & the Disease goes off, however if plethoraic Symptoms should continue it will be necessary to repeat the Evacuation, & use purgatives, especially Aloes - which ^{has} a disposition to increase the Circulation in the interior & inferior parts of the Body & to produce Haemorrhages -

Should there be no obstruction, but the Disease attended with plethoric Symptoms if these should be a sense of Fullness, & preoccupation about the head & the Bleeding is also necessary to diminish the Plethora, & evacuations are to be made, by the

Rg: Camphor 2

Pt: Gummosa. et Ruffi a 3ij

St: I. Nux: Mosch qd M: vij - ff: Pilula xxvij
capiat iij manz et Naspiris

Rg: Gum Arafatid: qn xij

Aq: Sulegia 3ij

Spt: L. Minderer:

Tulip e Camphor: a 8ij

Sig: Roni: 3ij

Lint Thibetian: qd M: + ad + + + ff: Haustur-

Aphænic Disease

Antiphlogistic purgatives, which in these cases are preferable.

It is necessary in these cases previous to making use of Antispasmodic Medicines, to make evacuations, to lessen the strength of the system because otherwise these Medicines would increase the plethoraic symptoms & hysterical affection by their stimulus.

But if there should be no plethoraic symptoms if the disease arises in weak ⁱⁿ plethoræ habits, if it proceeds from considerable hemorrhages, from anxiety or from any other cause producing great weakness from sudden tumor, or from other such affection, in such case making evacuations would instead of removing, tend to render the disease more obstinate, more fixed & permanent.
In such cases strengthening Medicines, & those which diminish the irritability of the system, are to be employed, & are the preferable ones.

After making proper evacuations, we are next to consider the disease, either, as unmercifully producing present symptoms, or irritability of the habit from which on the slightest cause, it is disposed to this disease.

If there be any hysterical affection present, or, if such affection return frequently then Antispasmodics may be applied with propriety Asa Foetida, Gum: Ammon, Musk Not Alk.

Syphilitic Disease.

& others of this kind may be exhibited, & these powerful ones have sometimes been successfully employed in these cases — There is also another Antispasmodic Medicine that has been employed by what accident Dr. It knows not, because he never saw any good effects arise from it I believe he means Valerian

These Antispasmodics are usefully employed if the Paroxysms are returning frequently, or, if they are present, but they all tend to increase the Irritability of the System, if the patient be very weak & the Paroxysms returning frequently, Opium has been given as an Antispasmodic & its effects are more certain than those of the others, But it has also the disadvantage of increasing the Irritability, & as in others, if there be any Strength in the System, it is not proper to employ it before we make evacuations

These then are the means we employ to carry off this disease, but we do not cure the Disease fundamentally In order to do this the means we have already mentioned, for Strengthening the System, are to be used in practice, & they are to be employed in the same manner, only with this difference, that, if the paroxysms, are returning frequently, they shd. be employed in considerable quantities —

The Bark is particularly useful in this case to prevent the return of the Disease —

It is not in this, as in other cases necessary to omit

Ayskeri Disease.

The use of these Remedies, with Paroxysms, in which they produce equally good effects, as in the Interventions

Preparations of Copper have also been given to diminish the Irritability of the System, in Cases accompanied with plethoraic Symptoms, & in these Cases are preferable to the Bark, Preparations of Iron have also been employed to strengthen the System & in weak Lax Habits seem preferable to the Bark

This then is the History & Manner of Treatment of the Ayskeri Disease - We have one more Remark to make, that this disease is very alarming in its appearance, a patient will continue affected with it for 3, or 4 Days, in a violent manner & then it will go off, of itself, It should also have been observed, that the Kidneys are particularly apt to be affected, an increased secretion of limpid urine, without salts, has been considered by some, as a Criterion of this disease, But this also happens in other Cases, & is therefore not to be considered as a Criterion of the Ayskeri Affection -

The Ayskeri disease happens in Irritable Habit from three Causes, from Weakness, from Plethora & from Anxiety, but none of these three Causes simply will produce Ayskeri Fits, They only give the Body a disposition to be affected, by the slightest causes of disease, & sometimes from no apparent cause, when they do arise they imitate all the Diseases

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Anxeric Disease

that can affect the System, as we have already described.

This Disease generally weakens the System & it frequently continues, till it destroys by increasing sometimes too it terminates in Mania, which may sometimes go off; or it may continue so as to be rather disagreeable, than dangerous to the Patient.

In treating this Disease we are to consider the cause from which it arises; if from Anxiety this must be removed, otherwise the Disease will continue in flight of any Remedies we can employ. Indeed there is this Advantage in the Human Mind, that unless fresh Cause of Anxiety be applied the first Stake or fit of Anxiety generally wears off in a short time, from this Disposition of the Mind, to overcome such Distresses, however during the same the Anxiety continues, we may employ some Medicines which may tend in some measure to diminish the Disease.

When it arises from Plethora, proceeding from suppression of the Menses, these must be promoted to carry it off. If from Plethora, not attended with this suppression, we are to make use of Evacuations. It is a disadvantage that Plethora frequently remains tho' the Vessels be empty, the Contraction of these continuing from the Habit acquired.

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Spasmodic Diseases.

First of
Epilepsy ~

Epilepsy

Any preternatural Contraction of a moving part has been called spasm, & such Diseases are divided into those which arise from preternatural Contraction of the Vessels themselves, & those which arise from Matter imitating them.

But we have already observed, that there are no such Alterations of the Fluids in the Body & we have on the other hand evinced, that there are preternatural Contractions of the Vessels.

Further, we had better confine the Term, as there is a particular Class of Medicines called Antispasmodics which produce good Effects in these, & in no other Contracting

When any Contraction takes place, it arises from some Cause, as every thing else does, this Cause may be some external Application to the Body, not to the external surface particularly, but acting also upon the interior parts.

Or the Contraction may arise from an Irregularity of the Nervous System, without any external Application, which Irregularities in the Actions of the Living power, are properly Spasms.

When a preternatural Contraction arises in consequence of a Stimulus, it sometimes goes off immediately upon the removal of the cause, or sometimes being once produced it remains, those that go off upon removal of the cause, have at no time been called spasmodic - Those however that remain after remo-

wring the Cause have been frequently esteemed so
thy continuance of the Contraction however is not
sufficient to constitute Spasm, as in order to this
the Contraction should be irregular, apt to go off & re-
turn again in a short Time ~

Mobility in the Part is also necessary to constitute
Spasm ~ Thus in a Fever a Contraction remains after
the Cause producing it is removed, yet we are not to
consider it as a Spasmodic Disease, the Contraction
continuing, without any Interruption ~

Such Contractions then as are Irregular, from irreg-
ularities in the Actions of the Living power, whose
contractions are not permanent, but remit or in-
termitt, are Mobile, or change their situations,
are most properly denominated ^{Affection} Spasmodic ~
The Spasmodic Diseases are principally the Hysteric
the Epilepsy, the Tetanus, which we now common-
ly call the Locked Jaw, & the lesser Species of this
Disease we call the Cramp, & those other affections
of the Muscles in which the Contractions are alter-
nate, but in such there is but one Paroxysm, the
Hiccups, the Rius. Sar, Chorea Sancti
Viti, which is rather Weakness than Spasm, ~

These are the Diseases commonly called Spasm
of which we are now to treat, see

We are to begin with the Epilepsy ~

Epilepsy

The true & perfect Epilepsy is a disease of the whole System, it is a disease in which there are contractions, & involuntary contractions of the Muscles & Nerves throughout the System, When the Disease is perfect a total loss of sensibility & irritability take place by Paroxysms which continue for a certain time, & go off at last of themselves, generally & commonly without any apparent cause, any apparent natural cause.

In the lesser degrees of the Disease, the sensibility & irritability of the parts continue & a part of the Body only is affected. Sometimes the Muscles only. But others the Nerves, but the Disease is essentially the same, has the same progress & is to be treated in the same manner as the Epilepsy.

This Disease sometimes arises from some apparent or manifest cause, some irritation applied to the system, sometimes from latent causes, perhaps from irregularities of the Nervous Influence.

Sometimes Warm & other Stimuli have bro't it on & sometimes apparent agitations, or diseases of the Mind have brought it on especially that terror which arises from seeing other people affected with the same Disease.

It has also frequently happened to Persons recovering from other Diseases, to Convalesce, this more frequently happens in warm Climates &

Epilepsy

This is not the cause of it, & frequently we can find no immediate cause for the production of the disease.

When it has continued a long time destroyed, particular appearances of the Brain have been observed which however we rather take to be the effects, than the cause of the disease.

This disease is hereditary, a person born of parents who have been affected with it, will be more liable to be troubled with it than other persons, sometimes no apparent cause is found, perhaps some internal alteration takes place, with which we are not acquainted, when we have no apparent cause for its production.

We have to observe that those convulsions which frequently arise in children, have been esteemed Epilepsies, but they are certainly different diseases.

We have shewn you the causes producing Epilepsy and come in the next place to shew you the symptoms of the disease.

This disease attacks by paroxysms, which begin sometimes with some previous symptoms which give the patient warning of the approach of the disease, & the patient is generally half a minute or more, before he loses his sensibility, sometimes

Epilepsy

no such previous symptoms take place, but the insensibility comes on immediately in

The most common of these previous symptoms, is a sense of Collected, as if a cold air blew, or ran from the Feet upwards, has soon as it reaches the Head, the patient falls into a fit, sometimes a little sickness sometimes pain in the Head & sometimes other anomalous symptoms, which seldom continue for more than a minute before the perfect Paroxysm takes place in

When the Paroxysm takes place, the patient becomes perfectly insensible, & loses his irritability, he is insensible to all external Objects, you may apply a stimulus to any part of the Body without effect -

He is not only insensible, but the irritability is diminished or destroyed entirely, Light for instance applied to the Eyes produces no sensation, & Medicines applied produce no sensation whatever on the system

If for instance in the paroxysm, you stimulate the Nostriils so as at another time to produce, or excite freezing it will now have no such effect

If you touch the Eyes, so as at another time to make the Iris contract, in this state by such stimulus, they are not excited to action - The Nostriils are not affected with any stimulus, volatile acids may be applied to them without stimulating, nor does the Iris contract upon the application of light.

It has often happened that People have imitated

Epilepsy

These paroxysms and when such cases have happened they have suffered themselves to be burned without shewing any symptom of pain. It has too sometimes happened that the patient has been cured by the Torture which the Torture has thrown him into & at others they will bear the torture without shewing any signs of pain.

When the sensibility is lost, the disease affects in two different ways. in the one there is or by this total loss of sense & Irritability, the patient remains at perfect Rest & generally in the same state, or situation he was in when he fell, or when the fit took place - which disease we call Catlepsy, if standing or sitting when seized with the fit, the Muscles act so as to maintain them in the same attitude thro' the paroxysm in this disease tho' (the catlepsy) happens very uncommonly -

More frequently Convulsive contractions of the Muscles take place & produce Epilepsy. The Muscles of the exterior parts universally are contracted, & sometimes some of the interior parts are affected. Alternate contractions & relaxations of the Muscles in the diff't parts of the Body take place, in those of Respiration perform their offices with difficulty, & a quantity of Mucus being secreted, the air in passing thro' the Trachea makes a considerable noise & from the mouth, by entangling with the Mucus, in its exit from the lungs.

The Eyes are commonly dilated, turned upward & the Eye lids half shut, so that only the white of the eye

Epilepsy

is seen, the Tongue is thrown between the Teeth, the Face, & urine evacuated involuntarily, & the Sensibility & Irritability, so totally lost, that biting the Tongue or any Stimulus applied is insufficient to produce any effect.

The patient continues in this state for a different length of time, in different cases, from about 5 or 10 Minutes, to half an hour commonly, when the Convulsive contractions cease, the patient lies quiet for some time, the Sensibility & Irritability being entirely lost, at last these are restored, the Fit goes off, the patient recovers himself, not remembering any thing that passed during the continuance of the paroxysm. He is weakened & fatigued as a man would otherwise have been, by the same degree of exertion of his Muscles, & sometimes he has done himself considerable mischief, by knocking his Arms against hard Bodies by biting his Tongue &c. The Fit however goes off, the patient is restored to a perfect state for the present, all the Functions of the Body go on as if no such disease had happened, until another paroxysm takes place.

When an Epileptic Fit has once taken place from any cause, it leaves or produces a disposition in the Body to returns of it, these Returns are very various, The paroxysms return at very different periods, in different cases of the Disease - Sometimes the patient will be affected with only one, or two, or three paroxysms during his life, at the distance of many years from each other:

Epilepsy

at other times two, or three Paroxysms will occur in
the Space of 24 hours —

When they return very frequently they are very apt
to become periodical, the Epilepsy like all other Di-
-seases which take place by Paroxysms, is apt to be-
-come periodical; after it has once taken place, it
frequently happens that the Paroxysms return at
stated times, sometimes twice a fortnight, sometimes
twice a day, or perhaps only at the End of a Month
so that there does not seem to be any particular power
of Periods over the returns, as in Intermittents, but
the Paroxysms return at first accidentally, & then, in
Consequence of the Habit acquired —

They hurt the patient more or less according to their
frequency, when the Disease returns at distant
periods, no Hurt arises to the System, excepting what
may take place by accident during the Time of the Pa-
-roxysm, — But when they return more frequently
they generally weaken the System considerably, & es-
-pecially they injure the Actions of the Mind
which also weakens the System, this added to the
common Symptoms of Weakness, generally produces
Stupor, & Insensibility, that state of the Mind
which we call Idiotism —

Sometimes they weaken the Body considerably &
produce the common Symptoms of Weakness &c
now I thin it happens that when they have weaked

Epilepsy

-ned a patient, if they have been periodical, they loose their disposition to return periodically, again become irregular & more frequent, & the weakness increases, so as to prove fatal in

But this is seldom the case, the disease will even when the Returns are frequent, often run out for a great number of Years without producing this effect.

Sometimes when a patient has been cut off by this disease, & when a person has died, who was affected with it, upon dissection Tumours have been found in the Head, Sometimes supplications of the Membranes of the Brain, but whether these were the Cause or effects of the Disease, we do not know, frequently they may be accidental circumstances & those who have discovered them, have had a fondness for finding something, which they supposed might account for, or be the cause of the Disease

Now in an Epilepsy arising in young People before the age of Puberty, sometimes the Disease will go off naturally at that period, the age of Puberty sometimes cures the Disease

A Fever, or any other violent Disease sometimes carries off this, as well as other Natural Affections But otherwise it admits of no natural Cure,

When once a Paroxysm has taken place, the Disease in consequence of Habit may continue to return - The Disease has also been sometimes carried

Epilepsy

Off by Medicine but seldom, it has often eluded the whole efforts of Medicinal means —

It also sometimes goes off in pregnancy, or any great change produced in the Habit, it frequently however continues thro' life —

If it arises from any apparent cause, by removing that cause, we may carry off the Disease, If from worms in the Intestines, or from any other stimulus, we may carry off the affection —

In Habits that have been weak:

Moved by Fever, for instance, or any other cause suddenly, it is then to be considered rather as an ^{such} Imposition of Epilepsy than the Epilepsy itself, & it is to be carried off by Strengthening Medicines, & such as diminish the Irritability of the System, as in other Cases of Mysterious Affection

But when it does not arise from any apparent cause, or when it happens in a strong Habit, it is generally more obstinate, & difficultly removed —

It should have been observed that the treatment of this disease may be divided into that during the Paroxysms, & those remedies which are employed to prevent its return, it is to be observed that during the Paroxysm the sensibility & Irritability are totally lost, so that no application in this period can produce any effect, all that we can do in this stage then is to prevent the patient from hurting himself by the violence of the Convulsive Motions of his Querulencies &c

Epilepsy

The Disease has been attempted to be prevented by employing powerful Antispasmodics at the approach of the Paroxysm; upon any warning given of it, when it has returned at regular Periods. Now powerful Antispasmodics, as Empyrealmatic Oil, Sopor Oils, others, Volatile Alcals, &c have sometimes retarded but not totally prevented the Paroxysm: so that there are little hopes of subduing it in this way.

The Treatment then must be such, as will prevent the Returns, by using Remedies in the Intermissions of the Paroxysms. If it arises from any apparent cause, this must be removed, whereby it may be prevented from recurring. If it arises from weakness Strengthening the System will generally prevent it. In this Case, as has been said, it will be considered rather as an ^{Artificial} Imitation of Epilepsy than the true Imperfect Epilepsy.

In general Medicines diminishing the Irritability are what I should be employed.

We have said that, when the Disease does not arise from any apparent cause, or when it happens in a strong Habit, it is generally more obstinate & difficultly carried off.

Now if the Habit be strong, the first thing we are to do, is to weaken the System because otherwise we cannot employ Strengthening Medicines, or those which diminish the Irritability

Epilepsy

of the system, so as to act powerfully - It is therefore recom-
-mended to take away Blogs & give three or four doses of pur-
-gatives, to diminish the Strength, after which by ex-
hibiting Medicines, diminishing the Irritability of the
System, we can sometimes prevent the Returns of this
as well as other Periodical Diseases

The Bark has been particularly used for this purpose
& has been sometimes employed with Success, but those
Medicines, which diminish the Irritability, without loss
strengthening Powers, have answered better, as Astring-
-ents, &c - Miss. Guerin, Polypody of the Oak, which
acting in consequence of the Juices it absorbs from the
Oak has produced more permanent Effects than the
Bark

Other Bitter substances & preparations of Iron
& Copper have more frequently succeeded, & these are to
be employed in the intervals of the Disease in consi-
-derable doses as the patient can bear, -- it is in the
first place worth while to try the Bark in large quan-
-tities, if the Attacks return frequently at long Intervals
it is to be employed in small doses, if this should fail
it is proper to try preparations of Copper, & Iron, But
preparations of Copper disagree so much with the Stom-
-ach, that we cannot often give them in sufficient
Quantity

The Vegetable Astringents do not seem to be
sufficiently powerful, but the others failing, it is worth
while to employ them

Antispasmodics have also been employed in the In-

Epilepsy

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Arvalls, the St. Animale, Fofil, & Embrynum atii Oils
as we have already observed have sometimes been employ-
ed with success, less frequently tho' than the Medicine
diminishing the Irritability of the System — — —

Besides these the other Antispasmodics, as Musk &c
have been employed, I have sometimes prevented the
Returns of the Paroxysms, of these too as large doses
as the Stomach will bear should be taken in the Inter-
missions. & they should be given, two, or three times a
day, so as to act constantly on the System — — —

People we have said often faint this disorder, & this
has often happened when Miracles have been supposed to
be performed by Priests, Witchcraft &c — — —

The persons so deceiving have sometimes borne an im-
mense degree of pain, without discovering an appearance
of Sensation. Nevertheless the Sensibility & Irritability
in such cases remain, tho' in the true & perfect Epilepsy
they are totally destroyed; the Nose can be irritated & tinc-
turing produced, so the Eyes may be irritated by the Stimulus
of Light &c & by these means the fallacy of such delusions
can be detected — — —

It has been proposed to prevent the returns of the Pa-
roxysms, by employing a large dose of an Antispas-
modic just before the attack of the paroxysm, if the
patient could have warning, by some previous symp-
tom, or if the disease should be periodical, this
however tho' it promises success at first by keeping

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off the Paroxysm; for an hour or two, yet they never prevented it entirely. Other Empyreumatical Oil — Rose Oil. Nosalat. Alzali & other Antispasmodics have been employed for these purposes but without any other effects, than retarding the Paroxysm.

Fear has also prevented a return of the Disease, as Dr. Boerhaave is said to have prevented them by threatening to burn Boys with a hot Iron (who have fallen into their Fists, supposing others affected with them) the next Time their paroxysm returned.

In the paroxysm nothing is to be done excepting keeping the patient quiet & preventing him from hurting himself, for this purpose he should be laid in Bed & kept as much at rest as possible until the paroxysm is gone off, for the Irritability of the Body being perfectly destroyed no kind of Medicine can produce any Effect.

Besides the Medicines mentioned Patients have been sometimes cured by going into another Climate or Country so as to change the whole Habit.

These are the Remedies we employ in Epilepsy — sometimes they produce good effects, at other times they produce no effect at all.

Epilepsies arising in strong Habits, those that are periodical & hereditary & those that return

Rg: puli Valer. syb: I^o
m. lastor lafici gl ij
m. Rhei grana quatuor

Inf. pului statim fumindas, et refelatur
quarta quaque hora (in rheo) in coctis
duobus julepi sig:

Rg: Ag: Sennuli une: tres
Ag: Ruta — une tres
Sint Fuljin
Spt Savind: a drachm his.
Spt Simp: une: unam

Inf. Julepum

Rg: Durot Ruta. E^o
W: Sini E^o
Sint Fuljin E^o
Inf. Anema —

Frequently often continue obstinate, notwithstanding
the application of proper Remedies —

Convulsions

similar to Epileptic Fits, affecting a small part of
the Body, are also frequent & are Epilepsies in a certain
degree. In the Muscles of a particular part, continue
for a certain time to be Spasmodically contracted —
relaxed, & these affections go off of themselves like
the Epilepsy, they differ from it only in their remain-
ing longer.

Sometimes the Muscles of the Thighs,
the Muscles of the Breast, or of other parts of the
Body, are affected, when the Muscles of the Breast
are affected it constitutes the Disease called Spas-
modic Asthma

These partial Epilepsies have the same Causes —
symptoms & progress, as the true Epilepsy, with
this difference that they more frequently go off of
themselves & return not again, These then are
partial Epilepsies & diminish or destroy the sen-
sibility & Inhabitability, only in the particular part
affected, these being preserved in the system in general

The Treatment is to be exactly the same, only that
the Body in general being at the same time ini-
tiable we may employ Antispasmodic Medicines

Empl. Vesui Nuxa applicandum

R. Galban cerasi

Pl. Macidii. & strachm duas.

Convulsions

with advantage in the paroxysms, Ether, &c, &c have also been at the same time applied to the part with success.

If the disease should affect the Muscles of Respiration & the patient be of a full habit it is often necessary to take away a quantity of Blood to prevent immediate suffocation as the Muscles being spasmodically affected, the Blood is thereby prevented from flowing freely thro' the lungs, when being accumulated in them, it will prevent or impede the ingush of the Air & may produce suffocation.

Sometimes the Nerves only are affected. In this case Spasmodic pains as we call them arise in different parts: These pains, the most frequently affect the Head, & more than any other parts of the Body sometimes only one side, sometimes both sides of the Head are affected.

These pains take place by Paroxysms but are of different Continuance, sometimes a paroxysm shall continue for an Hour or two, at others for some Months, sometimes the returns are at certain periods, at others they appear irregularly.

These too have no apparent Natural Cure but the paroxysms go off of themselves without any apparent cause, & without any apparent alteration in the system.

The treatment is to be the same, excepting that,

Convulsions

making evacuations from the part affected is sometimes of use, as Bleeding in the Temples, when the Head is affected & if the paroxysms return at very short Intervals, the Bark given in considerable quantities, during the Intermissions, will frequently prevent the return of the Complaint — Valerian has been supposed a Specific in this disease, but its powers do not seem equal to those of other Anti-spasmodic Medicines —

These pains proceeding from Contraction of the Fibres unless very violent, affect the system very Seldom, they do tho' sometimes & bring on Symptoms of Irritation &c

As the Irritability of the System remains Antispasmodic in the paroxysms are frequently of use and these as Other, Can de lue Animal Oils &c often produce better effects by applying them immediately to the part affected than when applied to the Stomach —

This then is the manner of the treatment of the Epilepsy, & of the lesser degrees of it in

The Tetanies.

By next Spasmodic Disease, we mean to treat of is, Contractions of the Muscles continuing constantly for a certain length of Time, without alternate relaxations.

This disease when in a violent Degree we call Tetanus, or English commonly called The Locked Jaw tho' not a proper name for the Disease, as that implies only a contraction of one set of Muscles, whereas the Muscles of the System in general are affected in this Disease.

When the Disease is slight, & continues for a short time only we call it Cramps.

The Causes which predispose patients to be affected with this Disease, are first weakness, such as is produced by Fever, or any such violent Disease. The Tetanus tho' does not arise or take place in of Fever, but after it has gone off, & when the patient is in a convalescent state, or recovering from a Disease.

Another cause is when the Body is exposed to great Heat, It arises more commonly in Hot than in cold Climates.

Tetanus

Another Cause is Wounds, particularly of the Tendons and Membranes, but these are no more than predisposing causes & not immediate, or exciting, for the Tetanus, only takes place when the wound is in a healing state, or nearly healed, so that it does not seem to arise in case of Fever, or wounds, from any particular stimulus applied, but from irregularities in the living powers - The disease arises generally in weak irritable Habit, from irregularities of the living power.

Now one would suppose that no Effect can take place without a cause, that there must, not only be a predisposing, but some immediate Cause, But if there be an immediate Cause in this Disease, we frequently find that it eludes our Search, we should think that when a patient is recovering from a Fever and his Strength in a good measure restored, or that, when a wound, was almost healed, there was no room to expect that such an affection as this, would take place, then when seem rather to give the Body a predisposition to be affected, than to be the immediate Causes of the Disease, so in like manner in lesser degrees of it, we find for the most part that the Disease takes place, without any apparent cause, the Convulsions will frequently come on in this manner, But the causes of these lesser degrees of it, are generally more apparent, than those of it when more violent -

Tension, in the Vessels in many Instances produces it, Women for instance with Child, whose Vessels are very tense are particularly subject to be affected with

Tetanus

This Disease, & a voluntary Contraction of the Muscles frequently goes beyond their Will, continues after the Volition is over, & gives occasion to the Disease — See the Cramp — Perhaps similar Contractions may give rise to the greater degrees of it to wit the Tetanus.

When the whole Body is affected we call the Disease Tetanus, not only the Muscles of the Limb but also the Muscles of the Extremities are frequently affected, so that the Body will be quite immovable It commonly does not affect all the Muscles at the same time, but by beginning in one part, Spreads to the rest of the System — Sometimes the Muscles of the Back, sometimes those of the Breast are affected with the Spasm, in the former case it is called Opisthotonus in the latter Emprostotonos —

Sometimes the Muscles of the Neck, sometimes those of the lower Jaw are affected, so as to keep the Mouth close shut, or perhaps a little open, or at other times considerably open, Pain very commonly arises, ^{notably} from the force of Contraction, but also from bending the Body, which is sometimes very considerable —

The System in general is not much affected, the Pulse is however generally frequent, the organs of Digestion & the Vital organs are perfect in Nevertheless the System is gradually exhausted in

After it has continued for some time, the Disease is

Tetanus

not so first, but the Contractions relax & contract, & the affection may go on in this way, for some time & then leave the patient.

We have said that in the Tetanus, the Functions of the other parts of the Body, are pretty well performed, the Digestion goes on tolerably well, the Pulse becomes sometimes frequent, but the constant exertion of the Living Power weaken considerably, & frequently proves fatal.

These affections often continue a fortnight or 3 weeks and frequently pass in this time from one set of Muscles to another, they also sometimes go off of themselves,

The Spasms do well frequently pass, to the interia parts,

If the Muscles of Respiration be affected, the patient dies of Suffocation, those of the Heart, or rather the Heart itself, being affected death ensues from want of Circulation, so that death does not seem to proceed, from the weakness or pain produced, by the Contractions, but from these Contractions passing from the ordinary parts of the Body, to those whose Actions are necessary, an indispensably necessary to Life.

Sometimes we have said that by a little Contraction of the Heart its Action ceases, & the patient is destroyed. - On the Symptoms of Irritation may arise to such an height as to destroy, there is then no natural cure rather place in this disease, it goes off without any apparent cause, only that the patient shall be weakened, by its continuance, But it gene-

-rally goes off, without any apparent alteration in the system, as happens in those diseases in which natural causes take place

The Remedies employed in this disease are Anti-pharmodes, but it is a question, whether with any good effects. It may be observed, that tho' these diseases are terrible in their appearance, yet they are not often fatal -

Opium, has lately been much employed, as an Antipharmode, in these cases, & there is one thing remarkable of this disease, that a patient can bear 20, or 30 times the quantity of this Medicine, 3*lb*, or 3*lb*, of Opium, for one dose, & a proportionable quantity of the other Antipharmodes, which quantity in other circumstances would destroy him; it is therefore necessary if any good can be expected from them to give these Medicines in such quantities, as shall produce sensible Effects, & those speedily

Large doses of Opium then, from 2 to 6 Grains for a dose I should be given & repeated 3, 4, 5 or 6 hours - In like manner too, large quantities of Musk have been exhibited, but we cannot say whether this Cure, or produce any good Effect in the Disease, they do not produce any sudden Effects, so that we cannot say - whether the Disease may not have done this its own progress, notwithstanding their use, or whether they may not have tended to carry it off. The Disease either goes off of itself after some time, or destroys the patient, & when it does go off, the termination is

of it is apparently the same as when Medicines have been employed

Cutting Inflammation on the skin has been also practised - but these means do not produce such sudden effects, as in other cases, & therefore we can - not say, whether they are useful or not, &c

The Warm Bath

Sedatives have been also employed, sometimes perhaps with good Effects, but as we have already observed, it is a matter of Doubt, whether the going off, of the paroxysm may be attributed to the effect of any of these Medicines as these are not immediate, or whether the paroxysm - would not have gone off of itself at this time, without such assistance

All that we can say, then, is that Opium has been given in considerable quantities, but whether it has tended to carry off the Disease, or whether the Disease would not equally have gone off, without its use, we cannot certainly determine

We are therefore to endeavour to support the patients strength, during the continuance of the Disease & wait its event, & we may also make use of the Rem- - dies prescribed, tho' uncertain in their Operation

Hiccup & Risus Sardonicus;

The next kind of spasm, is, a phreniatric affection which continues for some time, & does not occur by paroxysms; there is but one paroxysm, attended with alternate contractions & relaxations in these cases which are the Hiccup & Risus Sardonicus.

These spasms are alternate, continue for a considerable time, & then go off, without returning periodically. They are particularly apt to arise in unstable & weak habits, but their immediate cause, proceeds generally from something exciting contraction, A Man for instance from laughing, may by a long continuance of it excite such a stimulus as to produce the Risus Sardonicus, or involuntary laughter.

In like manner the Hiccup which is an involuntary, or convulsive contraction of the Diaphragm & other Muscles of the Abdomen, arises from something disagreeable to the Stomach, as acids. which stimulate it & set up this contraction.

Now in these cases the Muscles being excited to act continue their actions, & are not under the power of the will. A Man in these cases cannot avoid laughing, tho' it be extremely painful & disagreeable

Hiccup or

The patient thence becomes weakened, the pulse is frequent, but the Functions of the Body are duly performed, sometimes it even ceases so as to become fatal, this however is seldom the Case, the patient who is commonly weakened by it, is commonly a flight disease & goes off, in 4 or 5 Minutes.

The Hiccup will sometimes continue for 4 or 5 Days, prevent Sleep, produce weakness, sometimes to that degree as to prove fatal. The Hiccup when it arises in this way, is a more dangerous disease, than the Rhus Sardou, probably owing to the greater Consequence of the Muscles brought into action.

The Hiccup continues also sometimes till the patient is considerably weakened, when the Disease as in the former Case, of the Rhus Sardou goes off.

These Diseases arising in weak & infirm Habits, those Remedies which diminish the Irritability & strengthen the System have been employed for their prevention, & in strong Habits, in the Paroxysms - Antispasmodics & such Medicines have been employed to carry them off, but whether with any good Effects as they do not act immediately, we cannot say.

Dr Horridge believes the Disease more frequently goes thro its natural progress.

If we were to adopt Van Helmont's reasoning,

we should say that, by the continuance of Disease, the Spirits & Nerves being fatigued, at length sat down to rest, when the Disease went off.

D. Goudge is of opinion that very little has been hitherto done in these Diseases; that they go thro their natural course, whether Medicines be employed or no, & this certainly worth while to employ the Remedies we have mentioned: They do no harm & if they produce any effect, it is a good one.

Chorea Sancti Viti.

The last Disease accounted Spasmodic is the Chorea Sancti Viti. This however is not a spasmodic Disease but a weakness of the Muscles; they become weak & incapable of performing their proper Functions, or producing their proper Effects, & it commonly seems that, the Mind does not attend, or has no power over them.

Thus a Man in order to keep his Head, which is not placed perpendicularly, on its center of Gravity, erects it constantly exerting the force of a number of Muscles.

But in this Disease some of these Muscles being affected, cannot perform their former Actions & the Head of course falls forwards, backwards, or to either side, according as the opposite, or Antagonist Muscles are debilitated.

Sometimes the Disease affects other parts of the Body as the Limbs or Limbe like manner, the Muscles not being actuated by the Wind, the Motions are irregular & these irregular motion sometimes resemble dancing, whence arises the name of the Disease.

When this Disease happens in Childhood or commonly goes off at the age of puberty, it is a Disease that is more disagreeable than dangerous, it does not otherwise affect the System the Organs of Digestion & other Vital Organs perform their proper Actions, so that a Man affected with this Disease may live to 30, or 40 Years otherwise in perfect Health.

The method of curing it off, is by all the Methods of Strengthening the System, which we have already pointed out, by the Park Riding - pure Air, Cold Water.

If it has been of long continuance, it is seldom got the better of or removed it of short duration, it is more easily cured off.

These are the Diseases commonly called spasmatic. They have been supposed to arise particularly from affection of the Nervous System, or of the Brain.

This opinion arose in consequence of that theory, which supposes Diseases to arise from some particular Matter or from affections of the Nerves, but we have no more reason to believe these Diseases arise from any particular Matter or from such affections of the Nerves, than we have to believe Fever, or any other Disease, arising in consequence of alterations in the actions of the moving Power.

Aphoplexy

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not depending upon a cause, constantly applies, the remaining after the cause which originally produced them is removed.

In two next Diseases which have been joined to the Spasmodic, as supposed to proceed from, or, to depend upon, Affections of the Brain & Nerves, are the Aphoplexy, & Palsy.

Aphoplexy



Aphoplexy, is a loss of the Sensibility Inimitability and Mobility of the Body in consequence of Spasms in the Brain. These Effects may also arise from other Causes, so that the Person dies immediately, but then he does not die of Aphoplexy. Persons may be cut off, by a variety of Causes, & excepting where the Patient is cut off, by a stoppage of the Circulation we generally ascribe all sudden Deaths to Aphoplexy. But certainly erroneously, A Man for instance may breath noxious vapour, & if it be immediately destroyed, but then he does not die of Aphoplexy. A Man may also be destroyed suddenly by the Fall or Attack of Fever, but neither is this Aphoplexy. A Man may be likewise destroyed suddenly by excessive Exercise, or by exposure to excessive Heat, but neither again is this Aphoplexy. Or a Man may be destroyed by a violent Blow, on the Stomach, nor can this be called Aphoplexy.

Indeed this Disease has been generally distinguished & called Syncope, notwithstanding they have all been denominated Aphoplexy which is a very

Aphoplexy

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different affection, & always depends upon Extravasation of Blood upon the Brain, & in all these cases of Aphoplexy which we speak of, upon Examination of the Brain, Extravasations of Blood have always been found, where Anatomists, that we could depend upon have been employed to make the Enquiry.

Such Extravasations may rise from two causes, or if you please two Classes of causes, from the arteries of the Brain acting too strongly, & propelling such a quantity of Blood as to occasion some of it to be thrown out thro' the Ephalents or to cause some Vessel in the Brain to burst.

This case does not commonly happen, when it does the action of the arteries is generally assisted by some other action thus a stimulus, from deriving a greater quantity of Blood to the Brain may assist in producing this Effect Or in consequence of great exertion of the Muscles in Aphoplexy has been sometimes produced.

Now in Young & strong Subjects, an Extravasation of Blood may take place in the Vessels of the Brain, in the same manner as Hemorrhages take place from the Nose, or other parts of the Body, at particular times and this is generally the case in the Aphoplexies of such subjects.

But the other cause of Aphoplexy is more frequent In older people the Veins become larger, the contractile power of them is lessened & weakened, their sides become thinner, & therefore are more liable to be ruptured.

Aphoplexy

Thus we see in an old person by letting his Head hang perpendicular, the Veins of ~~that~~^{the} Head become distended from their want of power to propel the Blood, & overcome the Resistance made by the perpendicular pressure of such a column of Fluids.

The Veins then of old people, are commonly distended as far as their Elasticity will permit, so that upon any increased pressure against their sides, they yield easily & may be ruptured.

The most frequent cause of their Rupture in the Brain is some check given to the return of the Blood either to the Heart, or Lungs. — difficulty of Respiration a fit of Coughing or such exertion any cause that impedes or checks the return of Blood, as these Organs, may produce Haemorrhage in the Brain & thence Aphoplexy — Any sudden Agitations, violent Exertions we have said may produce it; it may also arise from external Violence, as Strokes on the Head Fractures the

But in these cases the Symptoms are different, from those, which proceed from internal causes, as the Fracture gives room for the extravasation, & therefore the pressure is not so great & even in concussions, without Fracture, the Haemorrhage is soon suppressed, the Nerves having no power to continue it, & the Symptoms are therefore of shorter duration.

Sometimes the pressure on the Brain kills the patient directly, generally tho' he complains of pain in his Head, or in putting his Hand to his Head he instantly finds a considerable degree of pain, he then frequently drops down & suddenly dies.

Aphoplexy

At other times the Respiration continues perfect, the Heart performs its functions, but the Pulse is generally slower, there is gradually an insensibility to external Objects, which continues for some time

There is sometimes a middle degree between these two - the Respiration shall be more difficult, the Heart - acting more regular

The Disease generally returns by fits and sometimes the Heart being regular, the Respiration is irregular; again the Respiration shall be regular & the Actions of the Heart irregular - These fits take place in consequence of the Exhavation which ceasing the Aphoplexy goes off & again returning the Disease also returns

When the pressure is not considerable, it often happens that only palpitation is produced, in which only the external sensations are destroyed the internal Organs performing their Functions

Sometimes the Respiration, or the Actions of the Heart, are for a time suspended, these Actions being suspended immediately at the Exhavation, by its pressure, this intermitting or ceasing for a time, they intmit & recover their actions until a fresh Exhavation be made

Aphoplexy upon going off generally produces palpitation which affection generally takes place in the side opposite to where the Disease of the Head was feasted in

If the Shura & palpitation continue, the Disease generally proves fatal, as these I shew, the Exhavations still continue

Verae Sectio

Aj. Linet Saura Gif

Linet Salapii Gif

Spt Sauvend C 3; Inf Sauvend

Empl Vesu - tota capiti - et Nervis
mmmm Suris applici

Aj. Simpl Spurp.

nn Cephal: Euphorb: sp: &
pedibus undique aqua applici

Pneuma purg: stimul

Linit Veler. - Fuligin Aromia Medi:
camenta stimul

Aphoplexy

Sometimes the Stupor does not produce palpable Exha-
-vated Fluids, being undissolved, & taken up by the
Absorbents, the Disease is carried off.

This Disease is exceedingly Acute, it either terminates
fatally within 24. or 48 Hours, or goes off & leaves
the patient.

We have shewn you the Symptoms, & Causes of Aphoplexy
& come in the next place, to point out the Manner of
Treatment of the Disease.

Now we are in the first place to endeavour to put a stop
to the further extravasation of Blood, & take off
the pressure of the Brain, as much as possible, & afterwards
endeavour to make Blood that is ^{extravasated} — be ab-
sorbed & take off the Stupor which often remains
even after the pressure is removed.

For these purposes it is in the first place necessary to make
large Excavations to Bleed, & by that operation take
away a large quantity of Blood, as in other Case of
Haemorrhage. by this means we diminish the pressure
of the Vessels upon the Blood, & of Course the force with
which it is extravasated — at the same time by em-
-pying the Blood Vessels we diminish the pressure upon
the Brain Considerably.

The Brain is on all sides sur-
-rounded with Bone when any other part of the Body has

Rg: Aq: pura Sesquilibram
Minim Antim turbid unciam
Tinet Sane uncias duas

Mf Sharma.

Rg: Sim Sinapios contusa
Rad Raphani rust
Farin Avenar fij unciam
Aceti acerim: q-s flatapt:

Rg: Tinct Folid: qsp
Spt. Not Arum fij
Aq: pura uncias six
Mf Capt cocht duo - frequenter

Hæmoplexy

a large quantity of Blood, thrown out upon it that part has room to swell, & be distended, But when this happens to the Brain its parts are more compressed from the incapacity of the Bones to yield to the distension.

By diminishing then the quantity of Blood we take off the pressure from it. Bleeding is always to be employed in this disease, & we are to bleed according to the apparent strength of the patient, from 12 to 20 ounces at a time.

Sometimes it requires to be repeated in two, or three hours, & if we find by the continuance or increase of the Symptoms, that the evacuation is going on, we should repeat the evacuation according to circumstances. Purgatives also are very proper evacuants in this case, & we should always employ them, they not only tend to evacuate the Vessels in general but also those of the Brain in particular, by increasing the flow of Blood in the inferior parts, we should then employ purgatives & in such a manner as to keep up a constant purging.

Now purging would be a more powerful remedy than bleeding if the evacuation could be made as quickly, but as purgatives frequently require a long time to procure their effects & as this can is very urgent we are under a necessity of employing Bleeding immediately, which is the most sudden evacuation & call in the assistance of purgatives to increase the effects of it.

We must then bleed largely at first, & continue to do

Aphoplexy

so if the Symptoms increase or remain, at the same time exhibiting purgatives

Stimulants have also been employed in Aphoplexy but certainly improperly at the beginning. They tend to increase the Circulation in the Brain & of course the force with which the Fluids are thrown out, after evacuations, after making considerable evacuations the application of Blisters externally to the Back or Head may be sometimes useful as the Stupor remaining is sometimes dangerous, than the Stimulus of the Blister commonly newer in Aphoplexy if the Disease can be carried off at all, the Stupor is removed by the evacuation employed & the sensibility returns

And of these heavy remains of the Disease Palys generally takes place in one side of the Body, so that it is generally better not to employ Stimulants unless we should find that after making very large evacuations, the Stupor continues & that Extravasations do not take place, in which case they may be useful, because that it often happens, that, after taking off pressure from the Brain, Stupor arising from that pressure still continues in but at the beginning Stimulants as Blisters &c should undoubtedly be rejected on account of their disposition to increase the Circulation & of course the Extravasation in the Brain, If we do not find the Disease returning by Paroxysms, which is the case when the Hamorrhage returns at short intervals we may suppose the Extravasation suppressed, & then as has been said Blisters are now proper

Palsy.

The palsy is a diminution of the sensibility Mobility and Ininitiility or of either of those in a particular part of the Body anyone small part of the Body a finger for instance, may become paralytic - The lower parts of the Body may become paralytic -

Palsy may affect one half of the Body at once sometimes, very seldom, the whole of the External parts -

But the general sensibility is hardly ever taken off; if it was then the Disease would be Alphoplexy instead of Palsy, when it arises from Compression of the Brain

The Palsy arises from several causes, in the first place from pressure of the Nerves going to any part for example, if you press on the Nerve going over the Joint of the Elbow, with three last Fingers in the Hand you will produce in them a paralytic affection, - stupor with a degree of immobility & so by pressing on the Nerves in any other part of the Body, a paralytic affection of the parts to which their Nerves are distributed, will take place

As long as the pressure continues the Paralysis will remain -

but if you remove the pressure the Stupor & Insensibility do not go off immediately, but gradually recede —
If the the pressure has been very considerable the Stupor & Insensibility continue, then we call it a Palsey —

When then the palsey arises from pressure, that pressure may be a permanent one, or if that pressure be removed, the palsey may, notwithstanding continue —

The Nerves may be compressed in any of the External parts, by exposure to external pressure the Nerves in the Head, in the Thighs &c are exposed to, & frequently are compressed by external Bodies & a Paralysis of the parts, to which they are distributed produced thereby, But such pressure being commonly soon removed a permanent Paralysis seldom arises from these causes tho' it sometimes does —

A Nerve may be compressed by any Tumor & of course a paralytic affection of that part, to which the Nerve went, be produced, It is a question whether Inflammation of the coats of the Nerves does not sometimes even & producing pressure occasion paralytic affections

Precipitate may arise in the Back on the spinal Muscs in consequence of any Tumor, taking place there particularly Inflammatory ones, In that Case Palsey of the lower parts of the Body will arise — A blow on the Back, or a fall in which the spine is

Palsey

much hurt, will frequently produce such affection.

Fracture of the Bones of the Spine seldom takes place, but whenever it does a Paralysis of the lower Extremities, must arise in Consequence of it.

Paralysis of the Brain may arise from Obstruction of Blood, or Water, Fluids. As such obstruction is generally more on one side of the Brain than the other, one side of the Body, generally is affected & most commonly the opposite side.

They might not have supposed this to be the Case a priori to know it to be from Experience.

It is well known that if you lay bare the Brain, & press on one side of it, that pressure will produce Paralysis of the opposite side, sometimes great Convulsions of the side where the pressure is made.

I frequently find Hemiplegia, palsies of one side of the Body, in consequence of pressure on the Brain, this is often attended with Convulsions of the other side.

These Affections are generally produced by a stroke, but the pressure not being so considerable, as to keep up general stupor, Paralysis is the consequence.

Palsy

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Palsy may arise from a division of a Nerve going to any part. If the Nerve be a considerable one, the Paralytic affection, may be so great as to destroy the part altogether, the part may Gangrene & Mortify, entirely from such cause.

But if the Nerve be small, then, the Nervous Influence may be carried on by the other Nerves, of the part, & thence the life of the part be kept up tho its Sensibility & Mobility, be diminished or destroyed.

If a very small branch of a Nerve be cut thro, the part to which it was distributary, will become insensible for a time, but the sensibility will after a time return, so that it appears that the Nervous influence, may not only be carried on by the Nerves, but also in some degree by the Blood Vessels, however cutting thro the Nerves generally produces a permanent palsy.

Another means of producing Palsy, is the application of Sodas - These are some of those that tend to produce destruction of the Sensibility & Mobility of the Body.

Preparations of Sias have this power in a very great degree & paralytic affections very frequently arise, in consequence of their application.

Pals.

Acids too have some degree of this power, but it is incon siderable: They do however sometimes produce this effect. It is remarkable too that Weakness of the Prima Via, arising either from Sedatives, being applied to them; particularly preparations of Lead, or from long continued Purging, will produce Paralytic affection of the exterior parts of the Body, attended with, a loss of Sensibility & Mobility of these parts.

Sometimes we are not able to trace the origin of paralytic affections - probably in these cases, they arise from suspense, which was not attended too at first, that is to the same the paralytic affection was produced in me.

These then are the causes producing paralytic affection.

In Paralysis sometimes the Skin sometimes the Muscles are more affected, sometimes both, sometimes the Sensation in the part is lost, & the power of Motion remains, sometimes on the other hand, the power of Motion is lost, & the sensation remains, But in general both these viz. the sensibility, & Mobility are lost.

The Circulation is still carried on in the part, but generally the Circulation in the smaller Vessels is diminished if the pulse is often feeble, but frequently the Circulation is as well carried on as before. In this case the life of the part is kept up, & only

Palsy

The sensation & motion lost, which may continue lost for a great length of time.

We have said that palsey is a diminution of the Sensibility, Mobility & Irritability, of a part of the Body. This is a weakness of a part, but different from that weakness, we have largely described, in the Sensibility, Mobility and Irritability, are rather increased, than diminished & are more easily excited, & with less force than natural.

These properties are however vastly affected in the palsey, so often not totally destroyed, as the Skin alone, or the Blood Vessels &c may be separately affected,

Palsey is principally an affection of the Nerves, of any part from some injury. In the first place if the Nerves of any part be cut thro', that part hence becomes paralytic, the Sensibility & mobility are totally lost, the Irritability remaining, as appears by Blistering, producing their proper effects when applied to such parts, such as Inflammation &c

This would seem to point out that tho' the principal part of the living power is distributed thro' the Nerves, yet as long as the parts continue connected, the life of such parts remains. This appears from the present Case, from the Nerves continuing their actions, tho' the Nerves of the part be divided, or cut thro'

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Palsy

Another circumstance that seems to prove this, is a part cut out entirely from the Body, & again applied, will frequently reunite. — According to Mr. Hunter's Experiment the Nervous & Sensibility of a limb, cut out & applied to the scrotum of a hen will continue to grow, & be so perfect a Vehicle as if it had continued in its original Situation.

Hence it appears that the Living Power is not strictly confined to the Nerves but is distributed also thro' the Blood Vessels, so as to pass easily along them to parts lately wounded, & has tis Contact as above mentioned to preserve the Life of such parts —

We have said the palsy may be produced, by the application of Sedatives, that which has the greatest Effect in producing it is Lead, These Medicines act principally on the parts to which they are immediately applied, if to the Stomach or Intestines they produce Paralysis of them, Constipation arises from the want of the Peristaltic Motion & pains are thereby produced — Those Employed in Melting Lead have on this Account their Lungs principally affected — Painters for the same reason are affected with palsy in their Extremities —

I Not only Lead, but acids & other Sedatives are capable of producing this Effect, tho' not so frequently great Quantities of Acetous Food, have produced a want of the Peristaltic Motion, & in consequence thereof considerable pain —

Palsey

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This further to be observed, that when the Stomach and Intestines have been weakened by any means, by severe purging, by living in a warm atmosphere or a want of the peristaltic motion, & pain have consequently been produced, there be no appearance, no application of irritatives to produce the complaint —

This also as we have said, not uncommon for Palsey to arise from no apparent cause, how you it is generally to be suspected, in these cases, that some of the cause we have enumerated, have been applied tho' not attended to, & it is very probable that Tumors may frequently arise & make pressure on the Nerves: — the such tumors may not be perceptible, or, obstruct of our senses

In the Hemiplegia most commonly at first, there is some degree of pain in the Head, & some degree of general stupor, at the same time one side of the Body is affected, sometimes too Epilepsy attends upon this going off the Hemiplegia continues —

This Hemiplegia is frequently very well defined: here you to cut a person so affected into two parts longitudinally, you would find exactly one half of him Paralytic, & the other half not at all affected

In this disease the sensibility & motility are generally lost the affection commonly diminishes somewhat of itself,

Ry: St. Ninois Sescunciam
Spt. Savina comp
in Salii ammoniaci a dī
Microeffat Embrocatio

Ry: Sem. Siaepios contus dī
Rad Raphan: rustici cont: dī
Tot: Salvia et
few Rosemarin fīs manipulos dī
Dicoque in Ag pure līnas sūf, ad līnas in
pro Folia.

Ry: St. Iunini
Spt. Sal: Am mon a dī
Microeffat Embrocatio

but it most commonly continues in some degree and that for a great length of time, sometimes we can carry it off entirely, by the use of medicines, but very frequently in general, we can remove it only in some degree, the Paralysis in some measure remaining still on

It is very seldom that Paraplegia, or palsies of both sides takes place in this, as all the exterior parts are affected, but the patient is sensible of themal objects, the Muscles of Respiration & the Vital Organs perform their Functions

If the lower parts should become paralytic from affections of the spinal marrow naturally produced in this disease commonly continues, diminishing however in some degree.

If it should arise from Inflammation in this part, we can sometimes remove it entirely by the use of Medicines, & always in a certain degree, sometimes the Sphincter of the Bladder & Anus, are affected with paralysis, sometimes the Bladder itself, so that the urine cannot be evacuated.

Paralysis of the Intestines produces Constipation, & symptoms of Irritation there arising will the patient off.

Paralysis of the Muscles of Respiration, produce difficulty of Breathing & Suffocation.

Paralytic affections of one Extremity, or of the Extremities in general, proceeding from

R. Consim Rousimur.

Sin Sinaphios* a sp
Ras Valer Syl: sic
Cot. Minkurani

Gum Guacai a sic

Spirinchis: q: s, mises effiat huit: cupus
capiat instar nubes moschatae majoris, bei
in die, superbitendo cocht quatuor
Infusi sequentis

R. Rad Capamun

— Galanga

— Serpent Ning et

Cot. Minkur Sing drachm: duas

Infundit in Ay Bulbunt unciis quatuor:
decima: cota et rotulae addit

Hini Ghaly b: unc: duas

Spt Lavund drachmas duos

March

* To be used, whole,

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Prepuse, or the Application of Sedatives, for the most part take off the Sensation & Motion of the parts without affecting the System.

We can sometimes carry it off by the use of Medicines, as Palsy does not produce any means of its own Cure, & therefore can only be taken off by Medicinal Means. If Palsy arises from Pressure & that pressure soon removed, the Disease will sometimes a state of itself go off, but if from any other cause, tho' that cause may be removed, it will generally continue ever afterwards.

If a Nerve be cut thro', or totally destroyed, we have no chance of Restoring the Sensibility, Motility & In-
-sensibility of that part, but if from Compression, her properties may be restored, by removal of that cause.

There is only one species of Compression, that we need attend to, as not being well understood, when Paralysis arises from Compression on the Brain, particularly in Consequence of extravasated Blood. Evacuations should be made, until we are sure no Extravasations take place in it, the Extravasations that take place in the Brain & produce palsy, are generally very small, much smaller than would produce the Disease if they happened in any other part of the Body, the Brain being every where surrounded with Bone, has not room to yield any cause lessening its resistance, it is therefore more readily Com-
-pressed than other parts, otherwise circumstances

R: Rad Raphani rust.

Semina sapis. Lij: 3ij

R: Bulbent unicas decem.

Macerat et colit.

X: Liquoris praeudens i solah. Gips

Liquor lat: aurant:

Trinitatis Vitis. a. 3ij

Afrafahit. Ii

Sal gem curvi. J. M. Stansius

In these Cases Practitioners have sometimes ~~occasionally~~ employed Stimulants immediately; they are tho' certainly improper at the first attack - however useful they may be afterwards, as they would tend to increase the Inflammation, of course the palsy, or produce Aprophy, & it is true indeed that after Aprophy is removed, by removal of the pressure, palsy will frequently remain, in which case Stimulants are necessary -

In these Cases then Evacuation by Bleeding & purging are to be made until we find the Inflammation, cease after which Stimulants are to be employed & such as act universally & are not inflammatory, are the preferable ones: The Volatile Alcali, the Tetradamina & Lilia as Mustard seed, Horse Radish &c. are the best, they tend to encrease the action of the living Power in the part affected -

When we use Mustard seed in Paralytic Cases it is better to employ it whole than in powder, because in this state the Ointment Oil is soon extirpated from it & its Effects are therefore less permanent, whereas in taking it whole, it requires a longer time to be extirpated, & hence the effects of the Medicines are rendered more universal & durable

Stimulants may also be applied externally to the affected part, Blisters, Volatile & Tartaric Alcali, Volatile Spiritment, & such like may be applied to the part -

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Palsy

If Palsy shoule arise in the lower Extremities in consequence of Inflammation in the Back, we are bound to endeavour to take off the Inflammatory affection by Evacuation & by Blisters applied to the paralytic parts after which the other means we have prescribed are to be employed internally, as we have said that stupor, will frequently remain, after the cause which produced it, is carried off.

Now Paralysis, & common Weakness, are by no means to be treated in a similar Manner, the latter requiring Medicines, which strengthen the System and diminish the Irritability, whereas in the former particularly in the beginning, these Medicines would rather do Mischief, by diminishing the Sensibility & Irritability still more.

If the part affected be small Medicines acting on the system in general are seldom of any great use.

In such cases volatile Liniment, Blisters & such like applications, are to be applied to the part affected, except the action of the living powers in it.

But if the part affected be more considerable if the palsy should affect any considerable part of the system, then the Medicines prescribed may be applied to the Stomach, so as to affect the whole system for Example in Hemiplegia, these Stimulants may be administered internally at the same time that Topical applications are employed.

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Palsy

It has been proposed in these Cases to apply a Blister
in the Course of the Nerve in order to take off the paralytic
affection, but upon trial it does not seem to be of any
consequence, or to answer the End proposed.

If the Palsy should affect the Intercostal, we should en-
deavour to excite the peristaltic Motion, by Stimulating
Medicines - Senna, with Oil, as Castor Oil, & those
Medicines which increase the peristaltic Motion, are
preferable ones, the Effects of which Medicines are
greatly promoted by Oil, If these should fail in
that Case there is generally an Abstumion which it
is necessary to endeavour to take off by Opium.

You see then that the Treatment of this Disease is
sufficiently simple, If it should arise from Obstruc-
tion in the Brain, Excretions are to be made
to take this off.

If from Inflammations, Antiphlogistics
are to be employed, or, if from Pressure, what can be
removed, the removal of that Pressure, will frequently
carry off the Disease. And if Stroph should still
remain in that Case, Stimulants, such as a Uni-
versally I am not inflammatory are to be employed
to carry it off.

As these Affections are long in going off, the Stimu-
lants are to be employed for a Considerable Length of
time, When the Palsy is mostly removed common brak-

most frequently arises, which is to be cured off by the usual means of strengthening the System.

Palsy from pressure upon any particular part of Nerves or continued only for a short time is frequently removed entirely, that which proceeds from pressure on the Brain is frequently removed but not entirely carried off nor that proceeding from Inflammation is also often carried off entirely.

The Treatment we have fair is very simple uniform & frequently successfull.

When the Palsy is removed from a part we should afterwards endeavour by Exercise to keep that part in Motion to prevent its return.

The Dropsy.

The next Disease we mean to treat of, is The Dropsy.

There are in the Body a number of Cavities, improperly so called, as not being destined to contain any quantity of Fluids but admit of such quantity only, as is sufficient for keeping their surfaces moist, & to allow an easy Motion to the parts contained, they are formed solely for the facility of Motion such as the Cellular Membrane, the Pleura, Peritoneum,

The Cavities have all Pores & Apertures permitting a quantity of Fluids, for the purpose of moistening the parts & allowing them an easy motion on each other, but at the same time there are absorbents, to take up such parts of the Fluids, as would be otherwise superfluous.

When then any Quantity of Fluids is accumulated in these Cavities, it is properly speaking a Disease.

But these accumulations are not considered as such as indeed we consider no alteration in the Body a disease unless that alteration prevent from Natural Function, produce pain, or a Supernatural Evacuation accordingly we have small quantities of water & excreted in the Cavities as the Pericardium, Liver,

Dropsy

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which we do not call Diseases, But when any such quantity is accumulated as to prevent some Natural Function of the Body, then we denominate it a Disease & the Disease Dropsy.

The Fluids thrown into these Cavities consist of the Serum always Superfluous Water, sometimes Coagulable - Sanguiniferous, very seldom the Red Particles of the Blood, & whatever is known out we in general call Water, tho very impropely, as frequently consisting of different Fluids.

These Accumulations arise from many Causes the most common of which is weakness, In this case the Pha-lents being relaxed throw out a greater quantity of Fluids, & the Absorbents being incapable of taking up such a quantity, an Accumulation takes place.

In this Case there being an Impression & Impotent Action of the Absorbents, proceeding from their Relaxation Dropped is produced, it being found that the finer a Capillary Tube is the better it absorbs.

Weakness frequently produces Effava-sation in the lower parts of the Body, for besides the Distance of these parts from the Heart, there is a Column of Blood equal in height to the perpendicular height of the Person impeding against the return of the Fluids impeding downwards & by its pressure forcing the Fluids out of the Pha-lents, and the same Column of Blood impeding against them prevents the Absorption of

Dropsy

The Sympathies so that the lower Extremities generally feel the Effects of this Pressure for the same Reason - Localised swellings will frequently take place, in the most dependent parts in any attitude. But the System in general may become affected in time. Not only the System in general but also a particular part of the Body may be affected with this Disease.

Weakness alone independent of any pressure whether it be quickly or slowly produced, is sufficient to occasion Regional swellings, those that are from Weakness quickly produced generally go off speedily as the Strength returns: but that which arises from weakness produced slowly & very dangerous & frequently fatal both because its cause is with difficulty got rid of, & the accumulation itself continuing tends to impede the absorption.

The Phalents being affected with the Weakness they become a Cause of the Continuance of the Disease.

Another Cause of Dropsy which also is a very common one is pressure upon the Veins or Sympathies. In the former Case more is extravasated & in the latter the Fluids throughout cannot be absorbed.

If a Vein in any part of the Body be pressed upon then the Fluids will not return readily by that Vein & the Arteries are still propelling the Blood into it.

Now there are only two ways whereby the Fluids can

Dropsy

parts from the Veins, & either by the Phlebys or by the Veins, when the Fluids be prevented from passing thro' the Veins & Invasion must take place, & the pressure will also prevent the Fluids from passing thro' the Symphatics to the Thoracic duct, so that there will be an accumulation of them in the Particular.

Hence a gland swelling in the Cervella, or Groin, by pressing on the Symphatics, & Veins will produce a swelling of the upper or lower extremity, pressure upon the Veins, & Symphatics is a very common cause of Dropsy.

The most frequent case of Dropsy from this cause takes place takes place in consequence of Scirrhosities of the Liver, It frequently happens that little Inflammations take place in the Liver, which do not terminate in suppuration but Scirrus in-

Swall the Blood from the Abdominal Vessels, takes the Liver, Scirrosities thus happening in the Liver, by pressing on the Vessels distributed thiz it, will prevent the passage of the Fluids thro' them, & produce this accumulation in

This then is a very common cause of Dropsy of the Abdomen, & is generally fatal, we cannot cure these Scirrosities of the Liver, we seldom can remove dropsy from the external parts, to which we can make applications, much less can we cure this

Dropsy

To which no applications can reach

This Dropsy then proceeding from Schistosities of the Liver is generally attended with a degree of yellowness of the Eyes, & in those parts particularly where the vessels carrying the blood do not pass —

Tumors pressing upon the Lymphatici Glands prevent the passage of the Fluids thro' them & produce dropsy in consequence. It is remarkable that Tumors of the Lymphatici Glands themselves, do not prevent the passage of the Lymph thro' them, or the course of it, nor produce dropsy, we frequently find the Glands of the Groin swelled & hard without preventing the passage of the Lymph, & we find them sometimes even totally destroyed, without the course of the Lymph being obstructed, or dropsy in the lower Extremities thereby produced — It is then in consequence of pressure upon the Neighbouring parts Veins, or Lymphatici, that the course of the Fluids is prevented by dropsy produced —

Any pressure upon the Veins or Lymphatici any tumor pressing upon them is capable of producing dropsy — this we frequently see in pregnant women —

If this pressure be not of any continuance the dropsy produced is easily removed, by removing the pressure, but when it continues a long time in that case the parts become injured & incapable of

Dropsy

Taking up the Enervated Fluids, whence the
Dropsy is rendered permanent.

Any thing increasing the Action of the Arteries
may be the cause of Dropsy - This has not been con-
sidered as a cause of dropsy so frequently as it usually
is.

Inflammations of the pleura, frequently do not
terminate in Suppuration, but produce Dropsy of the
Chest, Inflammations of the peritoneum have also
the effect frequently of dropsy of the Abdomen thereby
produced. - The cause of this we take to be owing to
these cases being always or generally supposed to be
Suppurations - Within these 2, or 3 years Dr. Foddyce
was present when the operation of the Empyema was
performed, once for a dropsy of the Chest and twice for
Suppuration, In these cases it happened, that tho'
Dr. Hunter & some other eminent Physicians &c
Surgeons thought otherwise, the one which was sup-
posed to be dropsy, proved to be a suppuration & the
two which were supposed to be suppurations turned
out dropsical. - The reason of their being mistaken
in these three cases, was that they were all preceded
by Pain, Heat, in the part affected & these Sym-
ptoms were followed by Rigors, & other Symptoms
of suppuration.

This kind of Dropsy differs from the others in this
that there is generally a tension in the part, fre-
quency of pulse & other Inflammatory symptoms

Dropsy

Inflammation produces Dropsy, not only by pro-
-ducing Excrevation of Fluids, but also by prevent-
-ing the Absorbents from taking up such as are ex-
-travasated

Obstruction to the passage of the Blood
into the Lungs has the same effect as Schistosomiasis of the
Liver and, produces Dropsy either in the Chest, or uni-
-versally. - Dropsies of the Joints & other parts seem
frequently to depend upon Inflammation as above men-
tioned

However this may be certain it is that Inflammations
of the Membranes of cavities very frequently pro-
-duce it either by increasing the action of the Vessels.
or, by preventing the Absorbents from performing their
Offices

Ruptures of the Sphincters, may also be a
cause of Dropsy, or a large one bursting may produce it
Dr. Fordyce thinks this is very seldom the case, & knows no
instance where it has been the cause, we know indeed
that if the Fluids, are thrown out & not absorbed, they
must be accumulated

The Dropsy may be produced by any mischief done,
to the Absorbents at their origin in the Cavities from
which they arise - It is probable that Dropsies arise
from this cause in many instances, we find for instance
in Inflammations of the pleura, peritoneum &c
that Excrevation of Serum take place & this
again not absorbed, this is often the case in Encysted
Dropsies, & also in the Cavities of the Joints —

Dropsy

Further it has been supposed, that an Alteration in the Fluids themselves may be a Cause of Dropsy such as thinness & Scroosity &c In general, when there is any superfluous Quantity of Water in the Blood it goes off by the Skin, the Urinary Passages &c &c It has been already observed that the State of the Fluids depend on the Actions of the solids, which when acting strongly would throw out such superfluous water & when weakly & observations would be more liable to happen from such relaxation.

These then are the general Causes of Dropsy, it is hardly worth while to enter into the several Varieties of these causes, as weakness from Fever, Inflammations, Obstructions in the Spleen & Gall & other parts

We believe it is sufficient to shew you these general causes of the Disease without descending to particulars, we shall therefore now proceed to shew you the Symptoms of Dropsy, arising in several different parts

Dropsical Swellings of the lower extremities very frequently take place, they arise from all the causes of Dropsy, but happen particularly from weakness & from obstruction of the passage of the Blood thro' the Lungs.

They are in these cases principally in the lower

Dropsy

Phemities, because of the additional obstruction to the return of the Blood thro' the Vines, & of the serum & superfluous water thro' the Lymphatics proceeding from a in consequence of the pressure of the Column of Fluids in the Blood Vessels the Force of which Column is equal to the height of the Body when in an erect attitude, we shall observe howon, who do not understand the Laws of Hydraulics, that, a Column of Fluids always pressing downwards in proportion to the height of the Column & not the quantity of Fluid contained Column of water weighing an Ounce, may balance the whole Ocean provided the height of the Column of water were equal to that of the Ocean

Now the Column of Fluids in the Human Body being equal to the Height of the Body & pressing upon these Vessels occasions Astrumatic swellings, Swelling in the lower Extremities rather than in any other part of the Body.

There is besides another reason for these swellings the lower Extremities being weaker than the other parts of the Body as they are removed so a greater distance from the Heart Hence when dropsies arise from weakness it always takes place in the lower Extremities & Gangrene & Mortification taking place in those organs in consequence of weakness, generally first attacks these parts.

This particular weakness of the lower Extremities seems to give them a predisposition to be affected rather than the other parts of the Body

Dropsy

We have observed that the Brain was the fountain of Life & that from this Mountain the Life flowed to the several parts of the Body. It would appear then that the greater Distance any part was from the Brain, the less life was in it & in consequence more air.

Now Dropsies in the lower & humerous arising from Weakness produced suddenly, or from acute Diseases in the Thorax - are not very dangerous, as Dropsies even proceeding from any pressure made on the Veins of the lower & humerous, as in Pregnancy, which pressure does not continue long are generally easily removed, thus Dropsy arising from Inflammation of the Thorax upon the going off of that Inflammation the Dropsy is frequently carried off.

But when Dropsies take place from weakness produced slowly, they frequently are communicated to the other parts of the Body, & thus generally prove fatal.

In the dropsy of the Cellular Membrane, there is generally a swelling about the Ankles, this Swelling generalizes towards the Evening, if the patient has been in an erect Attitude thro' the Day time, after continuing for some time in a reclined posture, the swelling generally subsides - This Swelling is at first of the natural Colour of the Skin, or sometimes pale, but by being greatly distended Inflammation is sometimes excited & the part becomes red, pressure of the finger or making the Waters recede & then requiring sometime before they can return to the same level, a depression, a pit as we

Dropsy

Seruit, is made in the Party, where the pressure is applied
which is of some continuance;

The Symptoms sufficiently characterize the Disease &c
prevent its being mistaken for any other - The more
common swelling with which it may be confounded is
Aphæni swelling, but there have not the Marks pres-
cribed. The Aphæni Swelling frequently disappears
in the Evening & return in the Morning, or sometimes
they come & go, inscriminate, at any time of the day.

There is another disease with which it may be confounded
viz an exhalation of coagulable Lymph in the
cellular Membrane, which, however, produces a hard
firm pressure, not yielding pressure

This swelling if it extends no further is rather an incon-
venience, as for instance in walking or other Pur-
suits, than a dangerous disease, but it frequently
extends up the Legs & Thighs & propagates to the
other parts of the System. The next & principal sub-
siding in point of frequency, is, Dropsy, of the ABDOMEN

Now this may be either an accumulation of water in
the cavity of the peritoneum, or it may be a collection
in some particular part in that cavity, the first
of which is most frequent & most fatal -

This dropsy arises principally from two causes, from
weakness, especially that which is produced slowly

Dropsy

and from Disease of the Liver; from Schistosities of this Viscus, & when it arises in any considerable Degree, the Distension of the Abdominal Viscera, is sometimes— such as to produce Inflammation in them, especially in the Liver, such as to produce Schistosities in this Organ, so that it is very Seldom that a Person affected with this Dropsy, is cured, altho' we may evacuate the Water already extravasated yet the Disease generally recurs & at last most commonly despatches the patient.

In this Dropsy there is a swelling of the Abdomen which is sometimes small sometimes considerable — If it arises originally from any Inflammation of the peritonæum, or if it should produce inflammation of this Membrane then the Swelling is unconsiderable, or not very considerable; but the Tension is great, the Pulse is unduly frequent, & symptoms of Irritation are produced, this being not so frequent a Disease as that proceeding from affections of the Liver.

The Swelling in this Disease is sometimes excessive, & is generally uniform & equal. Now & then tho' the Impregnments feels more soft & flaccid in one part than another, so that the Swelling is more unequal — This happens indiscriminately to any part where the Integuments being generally thinner than in the other parts, we may thence know the cause of their appearances.

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Dropsy

If you strike the Abdomen in any part, the Sensation arises, which is produced by striking a Bladder distended with water. This Sensation we call fluctuation. The waters pressing against the Diaphragm prevent that from descending in Inspirations, Difficulty of Respiration is thereby produced & if the patient should lie reclined the Difficulty of Respiration is rendered so great, that the patient is obliged to raise himself, or he raises to prevent suffocation.

In London often produces frequency of Pulse & increases the Evening paroxysm of Fever, the Stomach & Intestines being pressed upon the digestion is thence considerably hurt, or impaired, the Intestines are subject to Flatulencies & Spasmodic Affections. The Kidneys also being compressed by the Fluids in these cases, secrete but a small quantity of Urine. The Strength is diminished.

Sometimes we have said this disease is produced by Injuries in the Liver, But when it arises from other causes it often produces this affection of the Liver by pressing on it.

These are the peculiar Symptoms, which attend decompositions of water in the cavity of the Abdomen.

Sometimes this Dropsy takes place independant of the other parts, but more frequently the Cellular Membrane & lower extremities are affected at the same time.

Dropsy

Causes of Dropsies in the Abdomen, accumulations of Coagulable Lymph either in the cavity of the Abdomen itself, or accumulations of water, a Coagulable Lymph in the cavity of the womb, accumulation of expressed Oil or Fat, in the Omentum, all these sometimes form swellings in the Abdomen which may in some measure resemble or be mistaken for Dropsy of the cavity.

We have shown you the symptoms which arise when water is collected in the cavity of the Abdomen.

We said that there were some other swellings of the Belly which have been sometimes mistaken for Dropsy.

In pregnancy there is a swelling which has sometimes been mistaken for Dropsy especially as pregnant women have frequently endeavoured to conceal their pregnancy & sometimes have wished it to be considered as Dropsy.

But the swelling in pregnancy differs greatly from Dropsy. In pregnancy there is generally a stoppage of the Menses the Ovules being shifted. This too is sometimes the case in Dropsies, sometimes too the Menses may continue in pregnancy but in these cases the quantity evacuated is very small. If then the Menses continue in a large quantity, as they naturally take place & there should be at the same time a swelling of the Abdomen, we have reason to suspect the case to be Dropsy.

On the other Hand the Menses Stopping, is no certain Symptom of their being Pregnancy - In the first Months of pregnancy the orifice of the womb is at a greater distance from the external Orifice, whereas in the latter Months the Orifice may be for the most part felt with the finger introduced at the Vagina. The Swelling in Pregnancy generally appears at first in the Hips & the lower parts of the Abdomen next the pelvis. This is generally a very hard firm one & thus may be distinguished from Dropsy, there is in this no Fluctuation & very frequently occupies one side of the Belly more than the other & in about the fifth Month the Child begins to move.

Such Motion at first is only felt by the woman, but may afterwards be felt by any other person, by a hand laid on the Belly & kept there for some time.

After the 4th, or 3rd Month the swelling advances upwards & forms a Tumefaction bounded in form. Measure, & giving as has been said more resistance to the Touch.

Other Tumors of the Abdomen may be distinguished by two Symptoms in particular. The Swelling is not affecting the belly universally & equally & their being hard & without any Fluctuation -

Encysted Aeropis sometimes take place in the Abdomen in women, sometimes the Ovaria are affected, sometimes particular Cysts are formed. It frequently also

Dropsy

happens that there are little bags containing a quantity of serum & suppurative water in them, sometimes these are single, sometimes there are a number of them attached to each other, having the appearance of an enlarged lymphatic - these we call Bog-dabs

Sometimes so the matter contained in the coagulable part of the Coagulable Lymph which give the appearance of hardness to the whole - Now generally in these cases there is not a fluctuation, or an evulsion, but a hardness & firmness in a particular part of the Abdomen

Dropsical Swellings often affect the Thorax. A dropsy of the Throat, may affect the cavity of the pleura, or of the pericardium, or of the cellular or Membrane of the lungs - If the cavity of the pleura there is a difficulty of Breathing, the patient can only lie on one side, & that the affected one, as happens in cases where matter is contained in this cavity, & there is a fluctuation to be felt between the lower ribs

We do not know how to distinguish Dropsy of the Pericardium Should it arise there to a great degree, it produces irregularities in the action of the Heart, but such irregularities may also arise from other causes.

This dropsy is however a very frequent disease when the Cellular Membrane of the lungs, is affected

Dropsy

There is a sense of swelling & stuffiness in the Chest, a difficulty of Respiration & general Acropical swellings in other parts of the System, generally accompany it.

When Dropsy takes place in the Brain, there is in addition a separation of the Bones of the Head which at this period are soft & yielding, a Swelling, which, by compressing the Brain, produces Stupor & weakens the patient so much as for the most part to prove fatal.

When Dropsy happens in the Head in Adults, when Bones are more rigid, then no such swelling takes place, but Stupor arises, which is considerably increased by the patients gazing forwards, & the Brain being compressed, the Functions of the System are either so disturbed that they cannot be properly performed, or else, such weakness is produced as to prove fatal.
There is in this Stupor loss of sight, of appetite &c but it is very difficult to determine, whether these proceed from Dropsy or not, as Acromic affections of the Brain produce the same symptoms.

Dropsies, also arise in the Spleen, sometimes in the Cellular Membrane of this part, but this seldom unless the Cellular Membrane of the other parts of the body be also affected & a Acropical swelling is easily known. This swelling is generally considerable without Inflammation, or much pain for the most part & the tumor is, in a degree transparent, water is evident they containes it.

Dropsy

The Cellular Membrane universally is capable of being affected with this disease, producing the most considerable swellings in the most dependent parts.

But dropsy frequently take place in the Membrane of the Testicle within the Scrotum: Considerable sometimes takes place, evidently in the Membrane of the Testicle, as the Skin of the Scrotum is generally loose over it. There is a fluctuation of the Tumor has generally a softness, which the swellings in this part have not.

This dropsy is seldom attended with any ill consequences & when it happens in Children frequently goes off of itself.

Dropsy frequently arises in the Joints, which is generally the consequence of Hurt done these parts. If some degree of Inflammation takes place, the Absorbents are prevented from taking up the Fluids extravasated & an accumulation is produced, the Ligaments being distended, there is frequently considerable pain in the Joint. Sometimes when the Inflammation of Ligaments which produced the disease is diminished, the absorbents take up the extravasated Fluids, & the dropsy is removed at other times it continues the Bones become carious & hectic Symptoms frequently arise & in some cases destroy the patient.

Dropsy will also, as sometimes, or often take place universally, in almost all the parts of the Body.

In the Belly, & Cellular Membrane - universally throughout the whole System. When Dropsy arises from Weakness, or from any other cause & produces Weakness, it often then becomes universal & in this case is generally fatal -

This arises Premonitory Swellings of the Cellular Membrane universally in the Legs. If the patient remain for any time in an erect Attitude - in the Legs if in a reclined Posture these swellings extend to the Head, Superior Extremities, & Hemispheres. In either of these cases where Weakness has produced universal Dropsy, or where Dropsy taking place from any other cause has produced such Weakness the Case is generally fatal.

Dropsical affections often arise from obstructions to the passage of the Blood thro' the Lungs, particularly in the pneumonitis Rotha. The fluid excreted in all these cases, we generally call water but it is not so, a considerable quantity of Coagulable Sump being also thrown out, which while recent, upon evacuating the Fluid, may be observed in some Measure distinct from the water, but when this becomes resolved by Purification the two become intimately mixed & form an uniform gelatinous, or viscid Fluid or

We just now said the dropsical affections often arise from obstruction to the passage of Blood, thro' the Lungs particularly in the pneumonitis Rotha. If the obstructions can be removed the dropsical affection often subsides -

An account of Fox-glove

By W^m Withering M.D. Birming^m

The Foxglove Dr. W. observes, the article of which he is here to treat, is a plant sufficiently common in this Island. But altho' it be in general well known, yet as the leaves of the common Mullein, have sometimes been gathered in place of it, he thinks it necessary to begin by giving a description of this plant, and this description is illustrated by a very elegant engraving without however entering into the particulars of this description, it is sufficient for us to observe, that it is the *Digitalis purpurea* of Linnaeus — a vegetable belonging to the second order, of his 14th class — the *dicotyledonae angiospermae* —

But it is perhaps of more consequence to remark, that it is referred by Linnaeus to that natural

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In Acropical swellings, are rather to be considered as a symptom of a disease, than a disease itself; because we are therefore rather to attend to, or consider the cause of the disease, than the Acropical swelling, & we can more frequently, carry off the disease by removing the cause, than by employing any remedy immediately for its cure. Particularly if dropsy depends upon Weakness, the only way of carrying off the disease, is, by strengthening the system - If the Weakness cannot be carried off, then the dropsy cannot be removed but generally proves fatal.

If it should arise from weakness, & quickly produced by Weakness being in general easily removed, the dropsy in consequence, disappears - If it should arise from pressure upon the Veins or Symphatics, by taking off that pressure the dropsy generally goes off. If it should be produced by obstruction to the passage of the Blood thro' the Lungs, we are to consider the obstruction as the disease, & if we can remove the obstruction, we can generally often cure the dropsy.

As dropsies very frequently arise from Schistosities of the Liver pressing upon the Veins, coming from the Abdominal viscera, & as we know of no means of curing these schistosities, the dropsy in this case is generally fatal - This dropsy is generally attended with some degree of Jaundie, yellowness of the Eyes, & sometimes of the whole Skin.

If they should arise from Inflammation of the Membrany

~~Withering's account of Fox-glove~~

orders of plants, which he styles the Luridae, or as they have been termed by others, the Solanaceæ, and which comprehend most of the narcotic vegetables: and accordingly it has for its congenera, the Nicotiana, atropa - hyoscyamus, datura, Solanum and others of a similar nature.

The root of the Digitalis has not un frequently been used for medical purposes, yet Dr. W. thinks, that the leaves are best preferred to the other parts of the plant. Then he advises to be gathered after the flowering stem has shot up, & about the time when the blossoms are coming forth. He directs that the leaf & stalk and midrib of the leaves should be rejected, and that the remaining part should be dried either in sun shine or before the fire. If the leaves in this condition, be well dried, they rub down to a beautiful green powder and in this state they may be employed for medical purposes: from one to three grains of this powder may be given for a dose twice a day. It may be exhibited either by itself, or conjoined with some aromatic, or it may be formed into pills, with soap- or Gum ammoniac.

Dropsy

In the Cavities it will be necessary to employ Antiphlogis-
tic Remedies, to take off the Inflammation which is
often kept up by the Detention proceeding from the
Fluids extravasated. So if in like Manner if Dropsy
arises from any apparent Cause, by removing that
Cause, the Disease is generally carried off, but when we
are not able to remove the Cause, the Disease generally
proves fatal.

Then in order to the Cure, we are in general to endeavour
to remove the Cause of the Disease. If after removing
the Cause the Dropsy should continue, we are then to
employ remedies adapted for carrying off the Disease.

If we cannot carry off the Dropsy by removing the Cause, it
^{is} Seldom we can cure the Disease. If we cannot remove
the Cause, the Disease will also continue & tho' we may
persist in the use of Remedies, they produce no effect.

If the Cause is removed & the Disease nevertheless remains,
it is most commonly owing to a disorder of the Lymphatic
vessels, produced by it, or some new cause which it has
produced, of its own continuance such as Schistosities
of the Liver &c.

There are two Intentions, or Invitations, to be answered
in this Case, the one is to procure an Evacuation of the
Fluids from the cavity, the other prevent an accumula-
tion from taking place in future, after such Eva-
cuation.

Rg: Pinck Leno. 37iv
in Salapui bij Mt Sumatrankhij
lang: Sexta quaque hora

Rg: Ag: Month ps St. 50j
pulu Dijital puripur of i - ij - ul uj
Tinct Stomach: Zij - Infraustus
hi ul keruquolidi sumrindas

Rg: Sol: Dijital puripur. Zij
Ag: Bullirekt. Grij - ~~oek~~ f. Infus

Rg: Infus superscript G.
Tinct Stomach Zij - Infraust
otami hori sumrindas

Dropsy

The Dropsy like other Chronic Diseases has no natural cure, so that when it does go off, it is either by accident or in consequence of the Exhibition of Medicines or

In endeavour to evacuate the Fluids from the Cavities either by promoting the absorption of them or by making an opening immediately into the Cavities or

To promote the absorption by two means, either by increasing the Secretions or by stimulating the System

Now if the Glands of the Skin & the Kidneys separate throughout the superfluous water of the Blood & have the more solid parts or the thicker of the Mucilaginous parts of the Blood behind

As the Matter evacuated in this Disease consists principally of Serum & coagulated & superfluous water, sometimes Coagulated Lymph, by increasing the Secretion, & Excretion of these, we lessen in quantity to be excreted & as evacuating the superfluous watery part of the Blood, weakens less than any other evacuation, we would therefore wish to promote the Secretion by the Skin & the Kidneys - But it happens unfortunately in this case that the Secretion by the Skin is much less than in a natural state the Skin is dry, & sweating so with difficulty protracted, unless we upon the patient to such a degree of heat, as would increase his weakness, so that sweating, has not been commonly employed for the Cure of this Disease, where it has been practised, it has sometimes succeeded in carrying off the Dropsy

Pahr - Four handfuls of bruised White oak stalks leaves
One quart of bruised Juniper berries
One handful of Horse radish scraped fine
Two handfuls of the tops of Green Fir, bruised
Two table-spoonsful of white mustard seed-

Mix them together & boil them with two Gallons
of water to one. Then strain it thro' a linen
cloth, when it is cold - let the patient take
half a pint of it Morning & Evening -

K. Sapo

Gum Ammon, a 3j
Pulu folium Digital of ~~xxxvij~~
Syr q. s misc et faint pululu
triginta fix -

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In the second place, the Secretion from the Kidneys is generally diminished & as in other cases where the Secretion is small, the Urine is pink coloured as containing a greater proportion of the transparent Mucilage & Neutral Salts. This smallness in the quantity of Urine arises from two causes, the one is the facility with which the superfluous water finds its way into the cellular Membrane & other Cavities, & secondly the distension of the Abdomen producing a stimulus which excites the Nephels of the Kidneys to contraction. That this is the case appears evident from this, that upon tapping, by which the pressure & stimulus are removed the Nephels of the Kidneys secrete a greater quantity of the Urine is consequently evacuated in greater proportion.

Directives only act in this case by stimulating the Nephels of the Kidneys & exciting their actions & as the Secretion is diminished in these cases, these Medicines cannot so readily be applied to the Kidneys, as in Health. Their action then is very precarious & frequently fails.

Directives & Diaphoretics thus, if they produce their proper effects, if they increase the Secretion from the Glands of the Skin & from the Kidneys would be the best Medicines, we could employ for the cure of Dropsy but in general they are not efficacious, we can neither increase the secretion from the Kidneys, nor can we promote the secretion from the Glands of the Skin.

However when the patient is weak, these are the only

Ry. Rad Gentian

in Calami Aromatic et
Centaurant seu Lingzhi Drachm. tres
Absinth Roman

Flos Chamom. a. Tij
Sal Absinth Egi

Aq. Buluent sequilibram. flos Injisi.
Chataria. addz
Spt Lavend. Egi.

Ogus capiat cochl quatuor. his in dir

Ry. Nini Spissar Tij.

Fym Siccit. tis Inf H Smth

Ry. Nini Antimon. guttas. olofink
Tinct Thibetan qd A XXX

Aq. Alex. - Simp Tij

in Juniper tis
Spt Cori tis ffauit horā
fomi Spumendus

Dropsy

Evacuation we can employ for the removal of the Complaint. We are therefore at least to attempt the Cure by these means tho' they may fail.

There is one Thing to be observed with regard to the Action of Diuretis; that they shou'd not be too soon abandoned. They may be given for a Fortnight perhaps without producing any Effect, but after this time they often do increase the Secretion from the Kidneys & when this Effect is once produced, they quafferwardly applied in greater quantities to the Kidneys, whence the Secretion becomes more & more considerable.

The most powerful Diuretic in these Cases is Spills first Alcali, mix'd with resinous substances is also a powerful diuretic.

We have shewn you that Diuretis & Diaphoretic's were the most proper Remedies, the most proper Ex-creating Medicines in Dropsy, but that they seldom answered, or at least but in few Cases, that we could not procure increased perspiration from the Glands of the Skin, nor from the Kidneys by their means.

Sometimes Aids have had good Effects in these Cases but they are seldom proper as they weaken the prima Vista.

R. pilul Ruffi

pulu Tab. Londin

Gum Guaiacum a 3ijs

Linit Castor. vel

Linit Croci q-s

Micr et fiant pilula nonapinta. quarum capiat
tres vel quatuor singulis noctibus.

Capiat aucti Scillit. cocht. minimum omni
naturino Tempore, in cocht. uno majori
q. Cinnam junip

Capiat pilul Scillit. Scrupulum bis iudicis

R. Sem Sinap.

Pas Phaphan Cart: a 3i

Baw Juniper iunctus

Cinerum Genista a 3i

Maura in ag Juniperi Comp feruilibia
horas viijnti quatuor, colo: et colatura
capiat cocht. duos, et eandem quant: aqua
pura: cum sing dosibus pilularum

It may however be worth while to try the other Aperients
as the Neutral salts sometimes do.

In evacuation we can most commonly produce air from
the Glands of the Intestines, we can in most Cases em-
ploy purgatives that will produce considerable Eva-
cuation. Now the purgatives we employ in Atro-
sical Cases should be such as increase the Secretion
from the Intestinal Canal, & not such as only in-
crease the Peristaltic Motion. We better then to em-
ploy Jalap, Scammony, Gamboge, & other purgatives
of that kind, which tend to increase the Secretions
considerably more than Rhubarb, Aloes, Senna &c
those purgatives, which only increase the peri-
staltic Motion.

But of those which increase the
Secretion from the Glands of the Intestines, there
are two Classes Viz those that stimulate the Glands
of the Intestines alone, & those that stimulate the
System in generally, the latter of which are the pre-
ferable Purgatives, as they not only increase the
Secretions, as the others do, but also tend by their Sti-
mulus, to promote the absorption, independent of
the purging. It is a question however after all, whe-
ther Purgatives can be employed advantageously in
Atrosical Cases.

If the Atrophy arises from Weakness then, undoubtedly
Purgatives are improper, because they increase
the cause of the disease. If from Schistosities of

X: Gum Gamb:

Pulu Chinib: a gr v.

Sya Simp: q: s ffib: ij - max sumendus

X: Sydrang: pur Sidrahman

Contra Rosar rub: brachman

Phim miscantur

X: Maha supra prescript gr xv

Pad Scillar recent

pilule Skpar. a gr ij Met
frut lotus alturnis nodibus sumendus

Liver, or from any permanent Obstruction purging cannot carry off the Disease, as being incapable of removing the obstructive, it cannot evacuate the Water & it tends to cut the Patient off sooner than would otherwise happen, and if the Dropsy arises from any temporary pressure, upon the removal of that pressure the Disease will generally go off, & purging in this case by weakening & weak the System rather tends to render the Disease permanent.

Purging is very seldom useful, excepting when the general Dropsy arises from particular Dropsy of the Throat in which case if it can make the water in the Throat be absorbed, by producing this Effect, the Dropsy in the System may be thereby carried off.

In Dropsey of the Head, or when water is collected in particular parts, Purgatives may also be employed but Dr Fordice thinks, that many more have been cut off by purgatives given for this Disease, than have been saved by the use of them, for we find that people will frequently live, for a Number of years tolerably well without any considerable inconvenience for 10, 20, or 30 Years, tho' affected with Dropsy.

When we do employ purgatives they should be given as frequently as the Patients strength will bear, it is indeed rather better to keep up a constant purging than to suffer an interval of any time, because it often happens that as much water is accumulated

Rj: Argenti Nivi purissim 3*gr*
s. Melli 3*ij*

proba simile hinc in molaris marmoreo done Argentum
rimum apparere desinat, dein adde semper heraldo
Gum Ammoniaci purissim 3*ij* f. Mappa in Pilulas + +
dividenda, quarum sumat quinque, omni nocte

Rj: Aceti Sicillicii 2*fl* + + + ad. + + +

Sint: Aromat: 3*ij* Ag: Cannamomi 3*ij*

Syp: Simp: 3*ij* f. lat. Haustus his quotidianum sumendus

Rj: Argenti Nivi gr:

Palo: Rad Melli: gr.

Conserv: Rosar: 3*ij* f. bol: alkuni noctibus
sumendas -

Rj: Infus Amara f. 3*ij*

Sint Aromat: 3*ij*

Salis Tartari 3*ij* f. Haustus -

his quotidianum sumendus

in that Interval as was evacuated by the Purgative
But in these Cases we must consider the strength of the
patient & the Irritability of the Intestines which is -
sometimes very great

Emetics are the more efficacious in promoting Ab-
sorption than purging, but at the same time it is
much more apt to weaken the System, so that it is
forsore employed for the cure of this Disease, when
we make use of them, we should give such as increase
the Secretion from the Glands of the Stomach, it not
being sufficient merely to evacuate its contents —

Talcum has also been employed for this purpose as
Mercury by acting as a Stimulus, increases the Secretion
& the power of Absorption, but this too is an evacua-
tive that weakens very much — Now when the Mercury
has cured dropsy — It generally in this case acts more by
its Stimulus than by producing Talcum — In
general however this remedy is by no means proper ex-
cepting only where Partial dropsies have taken place
the System in general being at the same time sufficiently
strong — In Epicytic dropsies then & other local ones —
Mercury by promoting the Absorption of the Exava-
cated Fluids may be usefully employed —

But in dropsies arising from Weakness, from Incur-
sities of the Liver or any permanent Detrusion it
is so far from being useful, that it is very detrimental

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increases the weakness, irritability & thereby
under the disease, more obstinate.

Another Method of promoting the Absorption, is by Re-
laxants. By Stimulating any part the Action of the
Sympathies is increased, & of course the Absorption ~

We have stimulata the System in general, or any
part affected with dropsy, we rub warm Oil upon such
part for this purpose. The advantage arising from
this has been supposed to be the effect of the Oil, I know
deeply does not depend upon that cause, but solely on the
Friction of the Oil only serving to prevent the
Skin from being fuddled & excoriated by the Rubbing
which would be a disagreeable circumstance in dropsi-
cal Cases. Ointment Oils have also been employed as
Stimulants & sometimes with advantage, But the
Rubbing is the Stimulus, that has in general produced
the best Effects.

In partial dropies, as those of the Joints
the Pessicles for Stimulating the parts wth Volatile
Alcali & Blethers has sometimes carried off the disease
by promoting the absorption of the Fluids excreted
There then are the Medicinines employed to promote
absorption of the Excreted Fluids ~

Another method of getting rid of the water is making of
an opening into the cavity, & letting it out, as in
this case we only remove a symptom & not the disease
letting out the water if not to be considered as a Ra-
dical Cure, it only Palliates the symptoms for the

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Dropsy

present, Openings have been made into the cellular Membranes of the Legs, for the Evacuation of the Fluids but with little good effects. These openings evacuate the water only imperfectly, & as they soon heal the Fluids will be reaccumulated, besides, these wounds sometimes terminate in Gangrene & Mortification.

In Abdominal swellings of the Abdomen an opening may be made so as to evacuate the contents, but this opening should not be made, unless there be considerable Tension & unless the pressure against the Diaphragm, be such as to endanger suffocation, for the Evacuation is so far from producing good effects, that it rather weakens the patient more, & makes him be cut off sooner than would otherwise have happened, besides by admitting Air into the Cavity of the Abdomen, Inflammation of the contained parts is apt to arise, whence Symptoms of Irritation, that would soon destroy So that Tapping unless we are urged by such pressing Symptoms as we have enumerated, is improper.

During the Evacuation it is necessary to make a pressure upon the Abdomen, in order to keep up a degree of Tension & stimulus, to supply the place of that, which is now removed by the discharge of the water, as we find that sudden evacuations from the Abdomen by taking off the Stimulus that had been produced by the former distention, are often followed by Fainting & sometimes death.

Which is not peculiar to the Abdomen, the Evacuation

Dropsy

will produce the same Effects, if made from any other con-
siderable cavity. Evacuating the matter of large Abscesses is
followed by, or has the same consequences, there is hardly
a single Case where Tapping has produced a Radical cure.
Dr. Forester here related the case of a young woman, who
had been frequently Tapped & the Dropsy as frequently
& very speedily returned; sometimes since she was
again Tapped, since which the Disease has not appeared.
He observes that an Inflammation of the external Coat of
the Intestines & of the peritoneum, has probably pro-
duced adhesions of these parts, & thus has hitherto pre-
vented the further Diffusion of the Fluids & their
accumulation, the time that has elapsed since the last
Tapping is greater than any interval between the former
openings; how whether anymore water will be hereafter
accumulated we cannot certainly say.

Inflammation of the external coat of the Intestines fre-
quently happens after Tapping, but it seldom termi-
nates so well, as this symptom of Irritation more
commonly arises to such a degree as sometimes to
prove fatal.

This is an operation then that never should
be attempted but in cases of necessity where there is
considerable tension of the abdomen, or where the
pressure against the Diaphragm is such as to en-
danger suffocation, it appears that where we
can avoid Tapping, it should be omitted as by Eva-
cuating the water, the vessels of the peritoneum are
considerably weakened, & a Redeposition in consequence

Dropsy

more speedily made than before, there is another thing to be observed in Tapping, that the excretion of water from the Kidneys is prevented considerably by the purpure made on them by the Operation, so that when this is cured off the urine is made in larger quantities, which again lessens by its re-collecting.

Tapping in Dropsey of the Chest is never of any Service, for the Lungs are always diseased, the water has compressed one side of them & we are seldom tempted to make an opening until the disease has been of some standing, in which case that lobe of the Lungs that has suffered the pressure is collapsed, in some degree consolidated & incapable of expansion upon evacuating the water, so that a cavity or Vacuity will be left in the Chest, which must be filled with Air, or water, if with Air, Inflammations, suppurations &c will ensue, Now whenever such a cavity is left, is formed, it is afterwards filled with Matter, unless then we could find some Method of making the Lungs expand themselves so as to fill this vacuity, (with which means we are not at present acquainted) Tapping does not answer any good purpose,

In Dropsey of the Head Tapping is of no use, as Symptoms of Irritation are immediately produced & death soon follows — In Dropsey of the Joints if we make an opening into the cavity of the Joint to give a discharge to the Fluids contained, an Inflammation will take place in that Joint & produce Caries of the Bone, so that making this opening is generally laid aside But when Dropsey is seated in particular parts, or

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Drophy
rests as within the coats of the Testes - by making an opening & thereby exciting Inflammation the cavity may by the ensuing adhesion, be obliterated, or it may be filled with granulating Flesh, so that an accumulation of water is prevented in future & the Disease of course cured —

There are several Methods of performing this Operation by Incision, by Punction, by Tint, Scars - the Caustick &c but by what ever means we perform it, so that we can produce Inflammation & obliterate the cavity, the future lodgement & accumulation will be prevented & the Disease cured —

These are the Effects of making openings into the several cavities, for the Evacuation of the excreted Fluids now if we get rid of the waters by these Means, we should endeavour to prevent a future Excretion & accumulation This is to be done by giving Diuretics & other strengthening Remedies, for the Diuretics, while the Distention of the Abdomen is great & presses upon the Kidneys, are prevented from acting considerably on them, yet when this pressure is taken off, by the Evacuation of the waters, then Medicines are applied in greater quantities to these Organs & more powerfully increase the function of them —

But it happens sometimes that by a long continued use of such Remedies, as tend to encrease the Absorbent Faculty, we destroy such Medicines in their Cases acting as Stimulants & thereby increasing the patients weakness

Another Method of preventing the future accumulation is the making & continuing the pressure on the parts after

Dropsy

The Evacuation of the Fluids, in order to take off the weakness of it I give it a degree of Tension the want of which in its weakness disposes it to throw out a greater quantity of Fluids & also prevented their Absorption.

We have one more observation to make, because we think it of consequence & that is, that as the Dropsy is rather a symptom of a disease, than a disease itself, our attention is to be paid to remove the cause rather than employ means to carry off the symptom as in the one case if we succeed, the disease will not return but in the other, the cause remaining, the Patient will be again affected with the Complaint.

De l'Hydrocephalus, Effets que produisent les Pilules toniques de M. Bacher, dans cette Maladie, et leur composition, par M Richard de Hautefeuille.
Nouveau Recueil des observations de Médecins, des Hôpitaux Militaires

Of all the remedies hitherto proposed for Hydrocephalus, no one has yet been discovered, which from experience has been found attended with success, uniformly certain. Some of them by occasioning a sudden & copious discharge, produce an alleviation of symptoms, expeditious indeed but temporary only, others although certain in their operation, are yet so slow, that urgent symptoms will frequently cut off the patient before their effect be produced, And a third set, while they remove some symptoms at the same time aggravate others in such a manner, as to render the disease perfectly incurable. An remedy a Remedy in its nature effectual, and at the same time free from all those inconveniences, would unquestionably be a great acquisition to the Medical Art.

Such a remedy we are here told, is to be found in the Tincture of M. Bacher

This cure for Hydrocephalus although kept a secret, has for some time, had great reputation in France, it has been tried by order of the Court in the Military Hospitals, and is now published in the present work.

Before mentioning the method of preparing Mr. B's Pills
Mr. Richard presents us with some observations on the nature
of drooping; it has hitherto been the practice to recommend,
that liquids should be used as sparingly as possible; On the
contrary great part of the success of Mr. Bachers remedy
is alledged to depend upon the abundant use of mild liquids;
We are not only told that Mr. B's Honey pills are dangerous
without the free use of liquids, but that drophical patients
should in every Case, be enjoined to drink plentifully, upon
whatever principle, a cure is attempted. This
doctrine Mr. Richard assures us is established by incontrover-
sible facts: and he considers it as a discovery for which Mr. B.
is as well entitled to the thanks of the practice, as for the invi-
vention of his Honey pills.

Mr. Bachers pills are composed of an Extract of Millebore,
a Solution of Myrrh & powder of Carduus Benedictus.

The Extract is prepared from the Milleborus Niger foliis angusti-
lisibus of Turnefat, and is directed to be made in the follow-
ing manner

Take any Quantity of the dried roots of the Millebore, gently
bruised, put it into an earthen or glass vessel, pour upon
it as much Spirit of Wine as will moisten the whole: let
this Spirit of Wine be impregnated with Nitre & Alkali.

one part of the Althali being added to nine of Spirit, Let the root remain in this situation for twelve hours, then mix two or three times at proper intervals, after this add but a fresh quantity of the Spirit heating it in the same manner as before, then pour upon it as much good Phenish Wine as will stand about $\frac{1}{4}$ Inch over it, as the Roots absorption considerably proportion of wine, let frequent additions be made so as to keep the liquor for 20 hours about the same height,

The materials being thus prepared, let the whole be placed upon the fire, boiled for half an hour, and then strained off by the assistance of violent expression. Let the same process be again repeated, with the root remaining after the expression.

After this the insipid woody residuum, may be thrown away. Mix the liquors obtained by both expressions, and add to the whole twice the quantity of boiling water, Let it then be evaporated over the fire in a broad Silver vessel, till it acquire the consistency of a Syrup, add to it again about twice the quantity of boiling water, and evaporate as before, Then add about a ninth part of the Spirit of wine, and evaporate the whole to the consistence of Turpentine.

This extract thus prepared, according to Mr. Barker professes the active qualities of the Hellebore, while at the same time, it is freed from all the Volatile noxious & acrid particles

The Solution of Myrrh is prepared in the following manner
Let any quantity of it grossly powdered be dissolved in water
over a gentle fire, then strain it thro' a linen cloth, and
afterwards evaporate over a gentle fire, constantly stirring
it, till it acquire the consistence of a thin ointment.

The only preparation necessary for the Cardus benedictus
consists in reducing to a powder the leaves of the plant,
gathered before it arrives at seed, and in passing this
powder thro' a silk scarf,

The formula which Mr. Bacher gives for his Pills, is
as follows.

R: Sphacel. nostr. hellebor.
Myrrh. Solvata $\frac{1}{2}$ a dr

Cardus benedicti pulv: 3ij Ii Misn,
fiat secundum artem. massa aev sicc exsiccanda
donec formans pilulis apta sit. singul. ad gran simi.

These pills have been given to the extent of thirty four
doz taken in three portions of ten each, at the dis-
tance of an hour between each portion, the quantity
taken, however, must be regulated by the effect they
produce, which is a very copious evacuation both by stool
urine

In all cases of dropsy attended with relaxation, this remedy, the basis of which was so effectual in the hands of Hippocrates, may, we are assured be used with the greatest success.

Sectio Quinta, Aphor: 1

Convulsio ex elleboro, lethaly

Elleborus periculosis est sanas habentibus:
convulsionem enim inducit

Sectio W - 15

Aluminium This mineral occurs in
both massive & in the Scaly form, in the
Scaly form it is not a conductor of Electricity
Alumina one of the primitive earths which
is the Basis of all clays - loams & soils - especially
alum - Alum is a white salt from Alum slate
Composition of Alum 3 parts of Sulphate of Alum
1 part of Sulphate of Potass
25 parts of Water -

Transparent in a Pure state - it crystallizes in
regular octohedrons, where sides are equilateral
triangles - it has a sweetish but very astringent
taste Test of Purity soluble in water & precip-
itated by Ammonia & Potash if it is dis-
coloured it is not pure It is composed by
Barista - Potass - soda - Muriatic salt salts of
which these are the basis - Alum coagulates
milk - White of Egg - the serum of the Blood -
It is used as an astringent in Hemorrhage from
Stomach & bowels - in Leucorrhœa, as well
as irritation from the uterus great relief has
occurred from an astringent Lotion composed
of Alum & Sulphate of Lime each 3ij water Hj
to be injected twice a Day - but to be omitted
during the menstrua

Alum Gargle - composed of Alum 3ij water 3ij
A great service in relaxations of the Throat & Thony
Gums or inflammation of the Tonsils -
As a collyrium; iij ad aqua 3i - forced into the Eyes - a
small quantity very finely powdered is of service
blown into the Eyes in Strumous Ophthalmia or
red Eye -

Alumen est $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ in Muck have been given with great benefit in Cocco Pictorum & has been found to act on the bowels -

Offic: Preparations Alum: Exsic: Lig: Alum: Comp:

Antimony is of a bluish white colour, very brittle & of a scaly or plated texture not volatile
Antimonii Sanguisulphureum in a metallic state called Regulus of antimony Soluble in Hydrochloric Acid. & Lig: Potassa

Antimonii Oxy-sulphureum - only employ'd in the Plumbous Pile -

Antimonii Potassio-Tartras (late Antim Tart.) a double salt insoluble if not pure. Decomposed by Heat, Combustion Use as an Emetic 1 adij $\frac{1}{2}$ Diaphoretic $\frac{1}{2}$ External Counter Irritant as an Ung- 3ij ad 3ij ad 3ij ad 3ij adps -

Off: P: Rel: antimonialis am v to 8 qd
Vin: Ant: Potassio-Tartras 3ij to 3ij -

Argentum is found native & combined with
Sulphur, Lead Antimony -

Argenti Nitrate soluble in water, if not not good,
Precipitated by Ammonia - light decomposes it produce:
ing a white colour by being run into iron moulds -

is crystallizable, having brilliant plates & a
variable number of sides - Incompatible
with Potash & Soda - Precipitated by Ag: Calcis
Use as a caustic remove fungous excrescences,
callous edges - warts - strictures, &c. lethaea

Argenti Cyanidum is used to form acid: Hydro-
cyanic -

Liquor Argenti Nitras

Use - is a stimulant to incipient ulcers, &
applied into festulous sores - In erysipelas
it has been found to stop the spreading of the infection
by drawing a may in (with this lotion) alone an insubstant
distant from the affected Part. all round the swelling

Arsenicum Brittle & of a greyish white colour
it fuses at 356° fusing produces a蒜味 smell
by the air becomes oxygenated - found combined with
Iron. Sulfur, copper, & carbon forming arsenites
comp^o of Arsenic Acid 1 part. 2 parts of Oxygen - Taste
sweetish & slightly acid Arsenic Acid volatilized at 380°
acts as a violent poison Effects on the stomach
turns the mucous membrane red producing
erythrosis - not ulceration -
boiled at a high temperature but it fuses
readily in water.

Treatment - not to treat to allectant but give
powerful emetics. sulphate of lime & calomel

* Produced great relief in continual pain in the head after applying
to cutaneous diseases especially leprosy in Pompholyx & also
in eruptions caused by general poison or mercury
use in Cancer (?) Acid: Arsen. dissolved in Hg of water
the dose may be increased to $\frac{1}{2}$ of a grain twice a day
day or intermittent fever - & Periodical headache
if adxit by time aie

Liq: Potassa arsenitii - are about 5 to 40 gr. - ~~20 ml~~
by Barker & Evans & Co. Mfgd in suitable water for 4 hours
boiled & made hot 5 to 8 to 10

Barium is the base of baryta it is of a dark grey
colour, with a taste inferior to that of carbon - fusible
at a red heat -

chloride of Barium, is prepared from the carbonate
of Barium - $\frac{1}{2}$ part. Hg of water

Soluble in dilute Hydrochloric Acid - & in water
decomp^o by salts - acid sulph - alkalis their carbonates -
Hg: Barii chloridi used as a test of sulphates -

Hypatay: Tin oxide. - Formed by decomposing the
Bichloride of Mercury, with Lig: Potassa -- Acid & alk
insoluble in water consists of 1P of Mercury 2P of Ox. gen -
Produced by Mineralic & Nitric Acid - Decomposed by Heat -
(no internal use) - if inclined to buy it the dose is to 15^{gr}

Hyp: Imitico-oxydeum or Red Precipitate (this also is
a Tin oxide) - has no smell, - Acid Taste, - Decomposes
but is seldom given internally -

As an Ointment it is used as a Stimulant, applied
to indolent ulcers, chancre - Porijo, impetigo, in the
ophthalmia - in cutaneous diseases the irritation must
be diminished - Then the strength of the ointment must
be regulated according to the Irritation -

Hypatay: Metallic Tin (Russian Blue) formed by the
Iron & Tin oxide of mer: Metallic Taste, Insoluble in Hot
water - little in alcohol, is not decomposed by alkalis
This Preparation is not used for any medicinal Purpose
except in the formation of HgO-Cyanic Acid

Hyp: Iodidum formed by Rubbing Mer: & Iodine
with alcohol - Produces a Green yellow Powder it
Volatilizes in Red scales but afterwards becomes yellow
insoluble in water, - Decomposed by Heat & by exposure to
the light turns black - as an internal Medicine in Scrofula
the dose is 5 to 15^{gr}

Mer: tinct: Hg: Iodidum - as an external remedy -

¹⁷ H. S. Bimividium is made the same way - only
with double the quantity of Sodine - insoluble in
water, - soluble in acids & alcohol not used internally,
as an ointment in strumous affections.

H. S. Bisulphuretum (vermillion, a tunabar)
composed of 25 Parts of Mercury & 5 of Sulphur by
being heated is converted into sulphurous acid & soluble
insoluble in water & alcohol - is employed for
fumigation & acts in the form of mercurial vapour.

H. S. Sulphuretum cum Sulphure insoluble
in water, - as a mild mercurial, & antihelminthic
10 Parts contain 5 of mercury.

Pt. Hydroxylic, given either as an alligator or
Purgative - it is as an aet. v to x as a Purg. D'Addison
has found a Pt. composed of 1 oz. of Sulphur & 3 oz. of tin
of great service in all complaints arising from a bad humor.
Note of the digestive aperients, - it may be given as
a Mercurial in the cure of S. V. his in one combined with
Opium if necessary - as a vermicide combined with
Succul & Vitalis -

Pt. H. S. Sodide - 5 oz. containing 1/2 of Sodine - it is
recommended in Scrofula - but as it is a new prepara-
tion much cannot be said about it.

Very Good. soft - contains 3i ointm: in 3ij - as a medicinal
the best - in the form of anointing - There is least
damage from it to the constitution, wherefore it
may be rubbed in in delicate constitutions - & in
Perfume - when internal remedies will fail - 3ij to 3ij
is to be rubbed in Days & Morning on the outside of the
Thighs - the Hair being previously shaved off

Very Good. Pictures - contains 3i ointm: in 3ij -

Linen: By Dr. Sayre's Comp - contains 5*fl*. of mercury in 3ij
possesses the same virtues as the "Very Good soft" - but
acts more speedily - Dr. Addison says 3i of this Linen
added to 3i of the Extract of Mallow leaves gives the greatest
anodine he knows - Thermodic affection & Irritation

Emplast Molting: - applied externally to Ducts & Mouths
to disentangle Tumours - enlarged Spleen &c.

Empl. Wd: Ammoniacal for the same uses but
more active than the former

Very Good Pictures, a certain ointment
applied to the eyes - Ulcers, cutaneous Diseases
Leprosy &c. strength must be regulated according
to the Part it is applied to. - by mixing with Mustard.

19 Magnesium the metallic basis of magnesia
which is a proteoxide of this metal, -

The Sulphate of Magnesia - is found in Nature in
Saline Springs - it is also found at Epsom from
hence the name of Epsom Salts, - it is also found
in sea water, - from which it may be obtained by Coag-
ulation, in the form of minute crystals

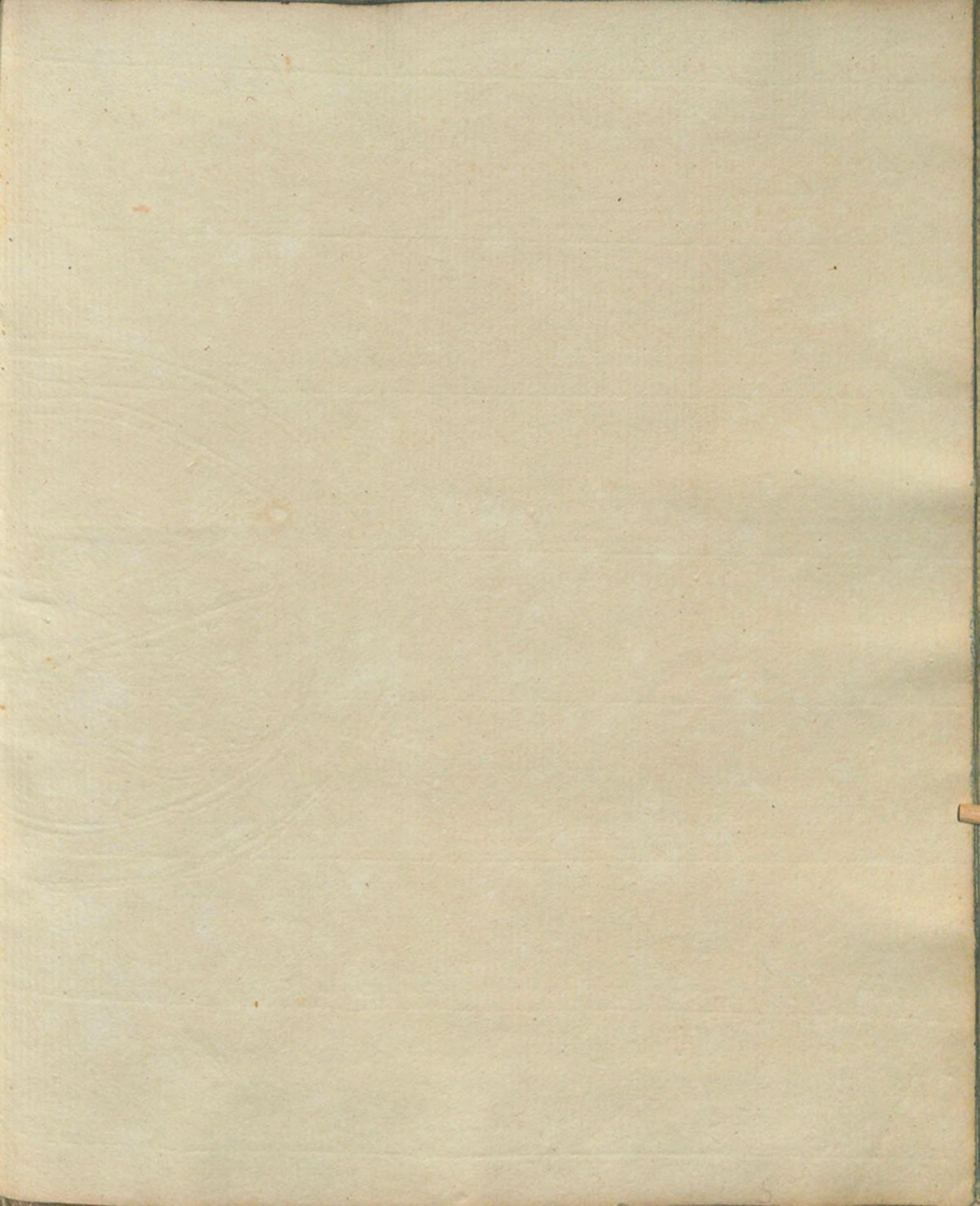
It consists of $\frac{1}{2}$ Mole of Sulphuric acid & 1 Mole of Magnesia
to soft water, - - 100 grains yield 34 of Carbonate of Magnesia
and as a泻ative the dose is 3*ij* to 3*x* + it is expected to
become a great deal of lubricating fluid and
leaves the more noted parts behind, therefore it is generally
combined with some other泻ative, Senna is the best
it is used to produce a gentle purging after the cathartics
decomposed by Potash Soda & the alkalis, it is slightly
decomposed by Ammonia - but not by the bicarbonate

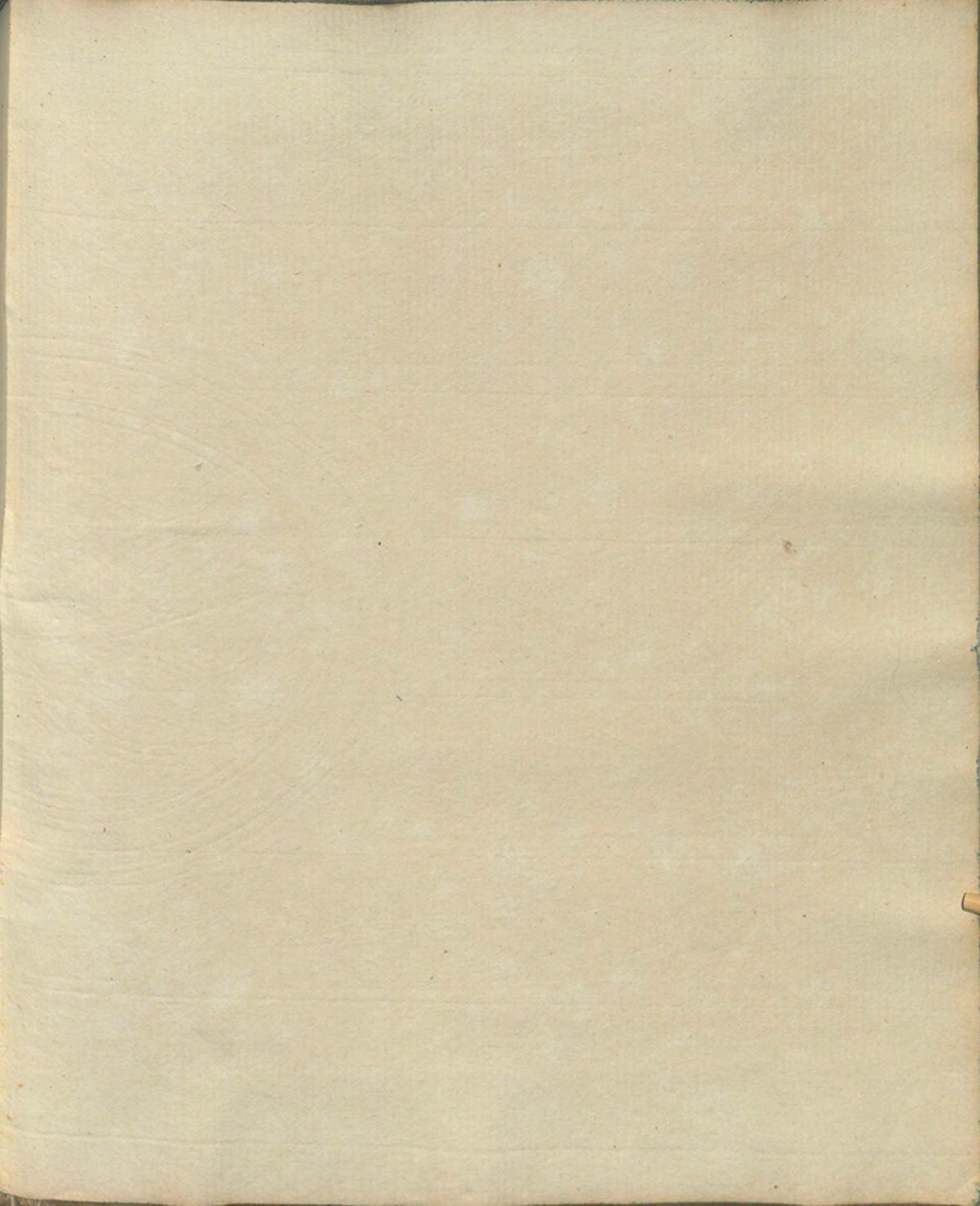
Magnesia Carbonas - is obtained from the Sulphate of
Magnesia & Soda - melted in water, dried & filtered
insoluble in water

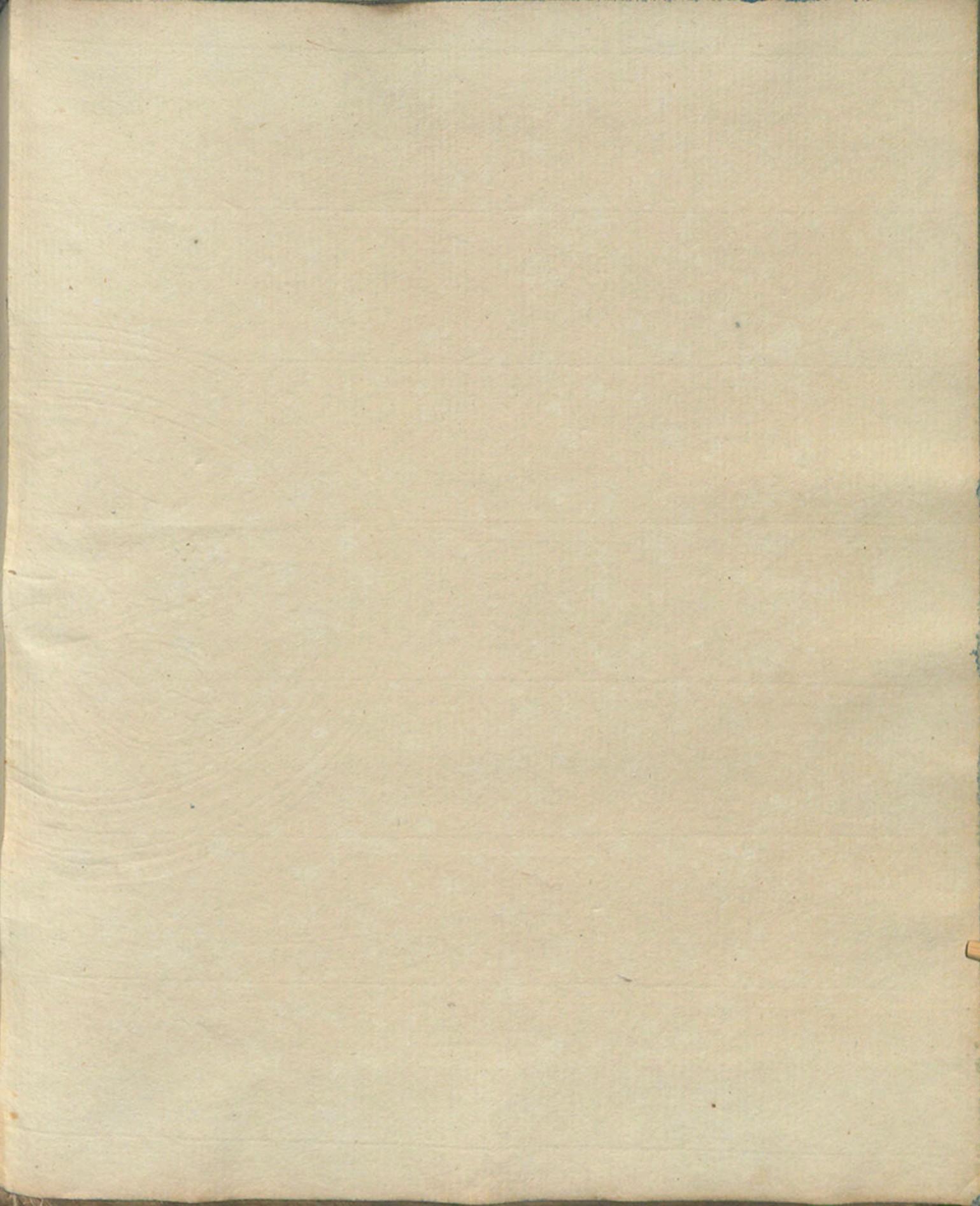
The chloride of Barium & nitrate of Soda give no Precipitate
mucopatate with Acids, - Acidulous salts - Muriate of
ammonia - lime water, exists in Nature constituting
Manganese

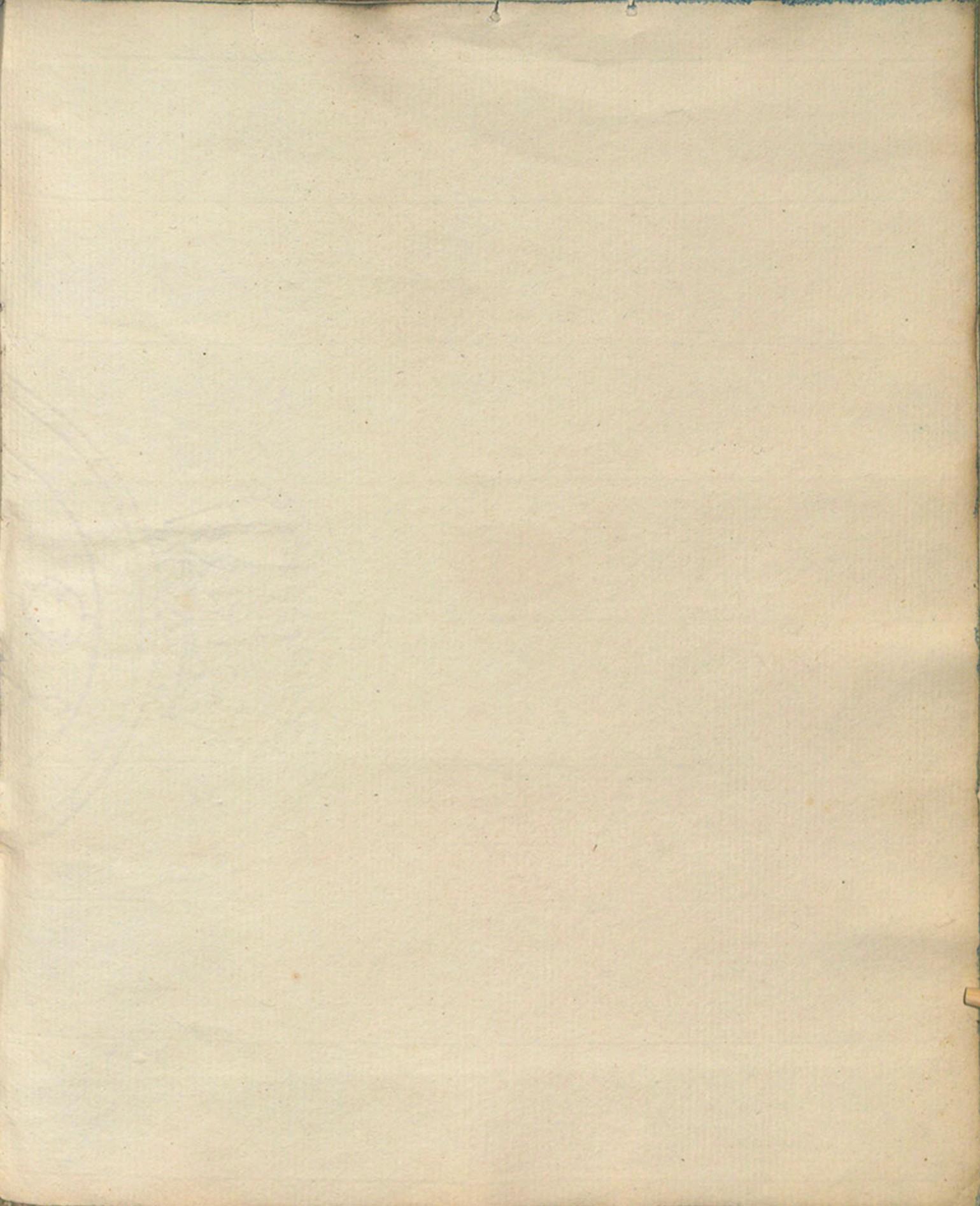
See - in Acidity the dose may be $\frac{3}{4}$ to 3*ij* in acidity it is
found to act very quickly - forms a white Powder consist-
ing of Mag Carb $\frac{3}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ Pub Khai $\frac{1}{2}$ Kalk Limestone: as an
expectant -

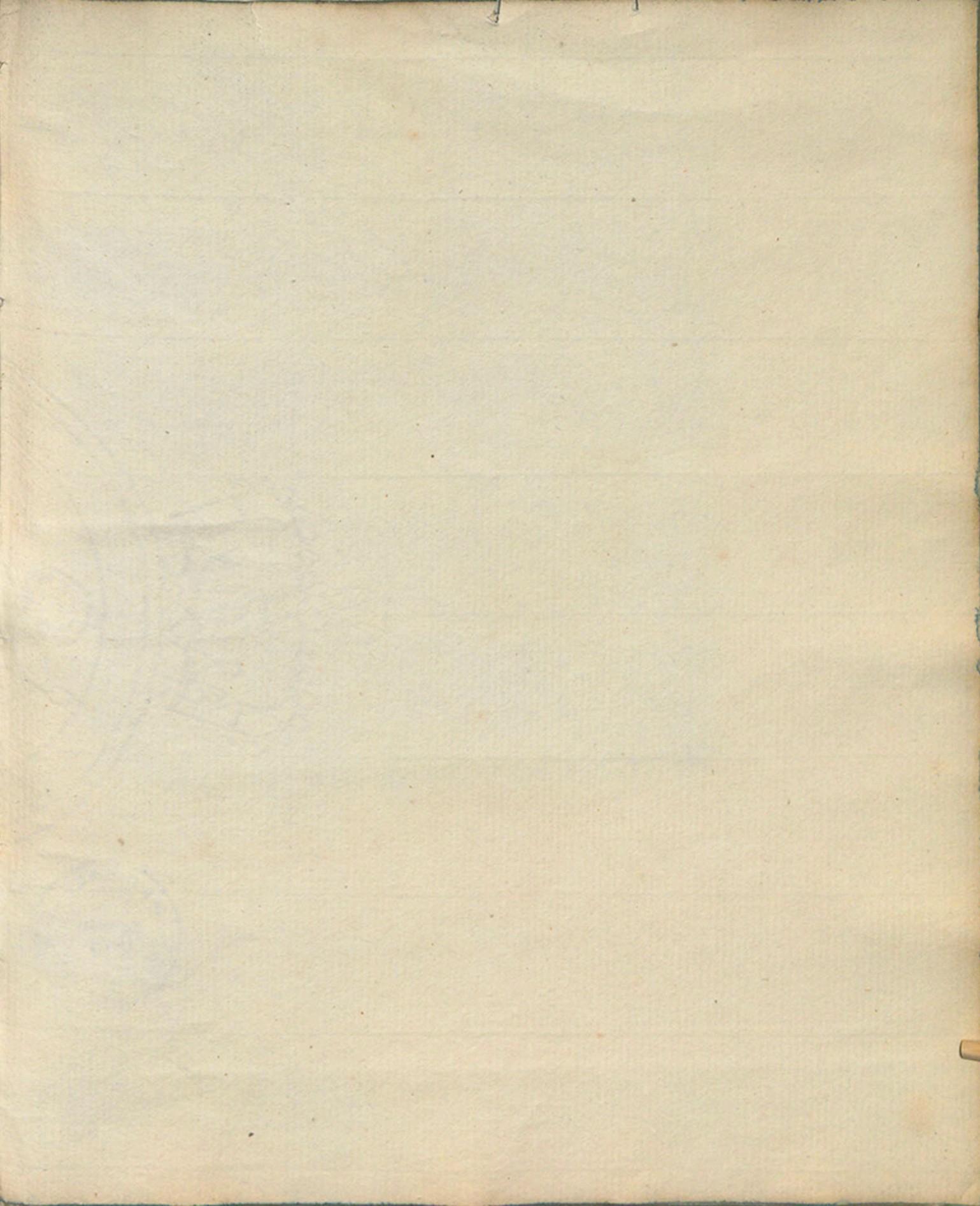
Mag. Carb. May be obtained by exposing the carbonate to heat
& heating the carbonic acid - leaves the Mag: carb. united
with water & becomes solid - but gives out no Heat & dissolved
by Mineralic acids without effervescence - as a purge: $\frac{3}{4}$
combined with Pub Khai -



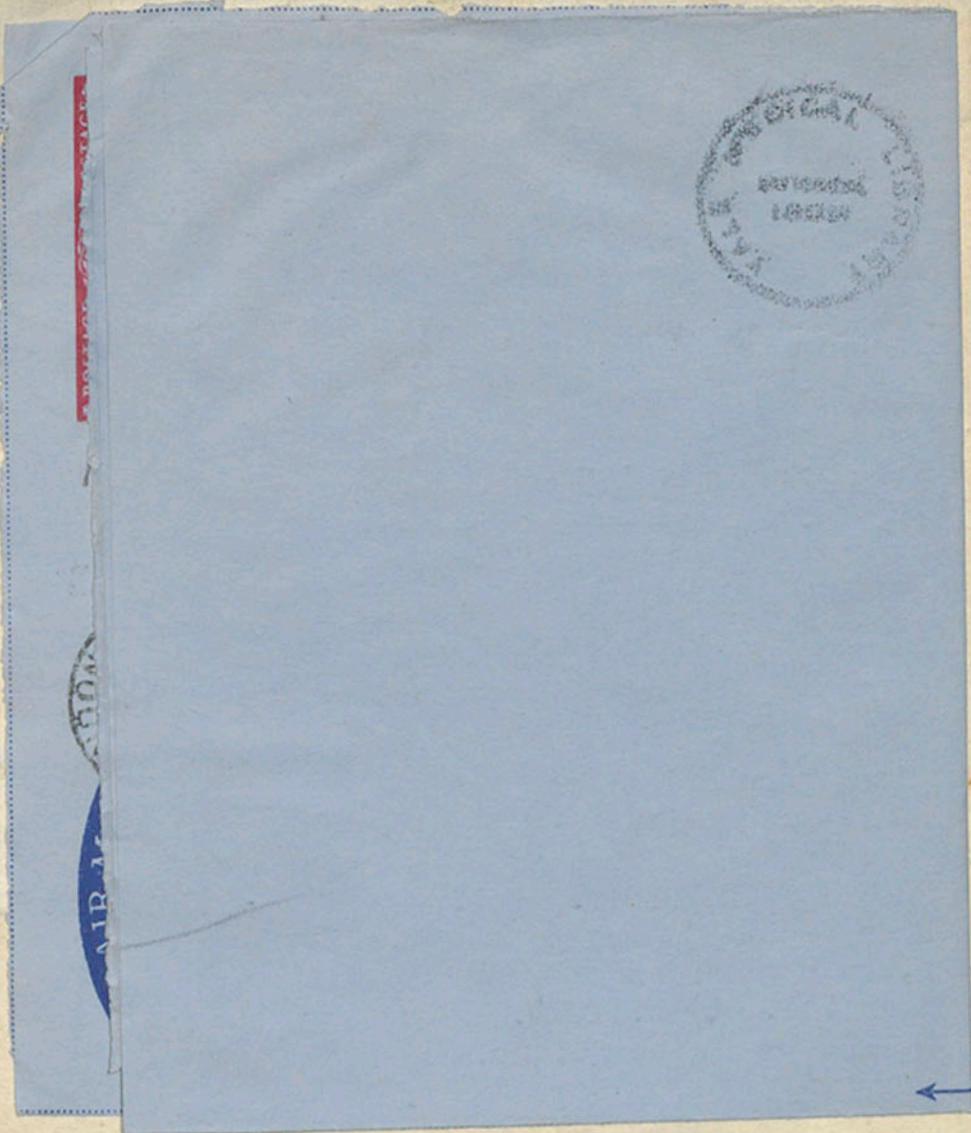












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